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Japan

'Higher' Yen Urged To Curb Trade Surplus

OW0106094792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0940 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 (KYODO)—A top official of the Ministry of Finance (MOF) said Monday that the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized countries have agreed that the yen should go higher to curb Japan's trade surplus.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the G-7 nations' view on the currency market has not changed since late January, when they endorsed the dollar's level at around 125 yen.

"We okayed the dollar's level a bit higher than now (in January)," he said.

The G-7's perception about the currency market has not changed since then, he said.

The G-7 is in agreement that Japan's surplus should not be allowed to remain at the current level and that the yen should rise to put a cap on it, he said.

The dollar fell further in Tokyo interbank trading Monday to close at 126.78 yen, down 1.55 yen from Friday.

The recent upswing of the yen reflects the growing expectations that the Japanese economy will soon start picking up, the official said.

The MOF official also said Japan is likely to face renewed calls from its G-7 partners for additional measures to boost the economy at their annual summit meeting in July in Munich.

The principal theme of the summit is how to secure growth in the world economy, and it is no wonder that Japan will be asked to do more in that context, he said.

But the official reiterated the ministry's cautious position toward additional fiscal spending to provide another boost to the economy, arguing such conventional means will not do much to enliven the economy since the current slowdown is quite different from ordinary slumps.

Neither monetary easing nor fiscal stimulus at the moment is likely to get the economy rolling again, he said.

"Such measures could even hamper the structural changes the economy now badly needs," he said.

Miyazawa Instructs Kanemaru on Talks With Bush

OW0106080292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0730 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 (KYODO)—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Monday instructed Shin Kanemaru, vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), to take up the issues of Japanese-Russian relations and Japan-U.S. trade issues in his meeting this week with U.S. President George Bush.

Officials said Miyazawa, who is LDP president, gave the instruction when Kanemaru reported to a top-level meeting of LDP and government leaders on his upcoming trip to Washington.

Miyazawa signaled at the meeting that he will appoint Kanemaru as a special emissary of the prime minister or the government, the officials said.

Government sources said Miyazawa will meet privately with Kanemaru at the prime minister's office in the evening to compare notes on Kanemaru's talks with Bush, scheduled for Thursday.

Miyazawa and Kanemaru will also discuss strategy for winning the passage of the U.N. Peacekeeping Cooperation Bill through the Diet following Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe's hospitalization due to acute stomach pain, the sources said.

Kanemaru, 77, will leave for the United States on Tuesday, accompanied by former LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa. Political sources said Ozawa will act as a "chaperon" to the man known as the kingmaker of the ruling party.

Kanemaru on Discussion Issues

OW0106130792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1250 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 (KYODO)—Shin Kanemaru, vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], said Monday he will discuss bilateral trade issues and Japan's territorial dispute with Russia when he meets U.S. President George Bush later this week.

In a private meeting with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on the eve of his departure, Kanemaru said that he plans to reaffirm the importance of the Japan-U.S. relationship when he confers with Bush on Thursday, party sources said.

He will also seek support for Tokyo's drive to regain from Russia four islands off the eastern tip of Hokkaido, known in Japan as the "northern territories." The islands were overrun by Soviet troops at the end of World War II.

Kanemaru, a reputed "kingmaker" within the ruling party, said he was considering responding favorably to Washington's demand that Japan boost domestic spending to redress its lopsided trade deficit with the U.S.

"A number of topics will likely come up during the talks and I will decide how to respond then independently," Kanemaru told the prime minister.

Miyazawa instructed Kanemaru to fully explain Japan's measures on promoting domestic spending, the government and LDP's efforts to realize a government-proposed bill to enable Japanese troops to join U.N. peacekeeping operations, and Japan-Russia relations.

Kanemaru reiterated his belief in the necessity of making every effort to pass the PKO Bill in the Diet and to achieve administrative reforms.

In a meeting earlier Monday with government and LDP leaders, Miyazawa reportedly said he planned to appoint Kanemaru as his special emissary of the government.

Kanemaru leaves for the United States on Tuesday and will be accompanied by former LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa.

Cadillac Bought To Encourage U.S. Car Imports

OW0106055992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0543 GMT 01 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 KYODO—Top government spokesman Koichi Kato unveiled Monday the government's latest Made-in-America purchase—a sleek Cadillac for his official use.

"For a politician, it is not a good image to be seen riding around in a Cadillac. But for the sake of Japan-U.S. trade we will have to overcome that," Kato said as he showed off the 7.1 million yen acquisition.

According to conventional Japanese wisdom, politicians are advised to demonstrate humility by abstaining in public from extravagant indulgence.

Some Japanese are also wary of flashy American cars because they have long been the status symbol of members of yakuza crime syndicates.

The first purchase of an American automobile for use by the cabinet secretariat comes half a year after U.S. President George Bush visited Japan accompanied by executives of major automobile companies to press for more imports of U.S. cars.

Kato said he was worried whether the car, which replaces the more compact Nissan New President, would be able to navigate the narrow streets in his neighborhood in Setagaya ward.

The chief cabinet secretary said he enjoyed the extra legroom, but remarked that the left-hand-side steering wheel poses an inconvenience in this country, where cars are driven on the left-hand side of the road.

Japan has urged U.S. automakers to adapt their products to the Japanese market to improve sales.

Sales of U.S.-made cars, including those manufactured by Japanese companies in the United States, came to 30,430 last year, or about one-third of the 113,212 sales recorded for German cars.

Removal of Okinawa Training Facilities Announced

OW2905173992 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 29 May 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Text] The Naha Defense Facilities Administration Bureau [DFAB] announced on 28 May that the U.S. forces in Okinawa will start removing urban combat training facilities in Onna village beginning 1 June. The work will be completed by 15 July. U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle disclosed that said facilities would be removed "for U.S. forces' operational reasons" when he visited Japan to attend the cermony commemorating the reversion [of Okinawa to Japan], which falls on 15 May.

The U.S. forces will pay for this removal. The tire house and other buildings used for training will be demolished and removed. Members of the U.S. forces and Japanese employees will undertake this work.

According to the Naha DFAB, the facilities' foundations will be left untouched because of danger of red earth pollution. The principal parts of buildings will be demolished using cranes. When the removal is complete, the Naha DFAB will check the work.

The building of these facilities, used by U.S. forces for guerrilla urban warfare training with live ammunition, was forcibly begun in 1988 with forced removals of local residents obstructing the project. As a result of firm requests made repeatedly by local residents for five years, it was finally decided that the facilities should be removed.

Shigemasa Higa, mayor of Onna village, stated: "We are at ease now because schedules for removal work have been announced. We were afraid that the work might not begin; the announcement indicates that a forward step has been taken. We hope that not even one day will be lost in safely removing the facilities. However, there still remains the problem of exercises using live ammunition. We will continue to deal with this issue as we have been doing in order to prevent any more damage from red earth pollution and to obstruct military exercises."

PRC Parliament Leader Wan Li Departs 1 Jun

OW0106070492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0633 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Osaka, June 1 (KYODO)—Chinese parliament leader Wan Li left Osaka on a flight for home Monday afternoon, ending his eight-day visit to Japan.

Wan, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, visited Japan at the invitation of the heads of both houses of the Diet.

During his stay in Japan, Wan held talks with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and other Japanese political and business leaders, and had an audience with Emperor Akihito.

Tokyo To Ask PRC Arms Registry Participation

OW3005113792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1117 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 30 (KYODO)—Japan will next week call for China and Cuba to participate in the newly established U.N. Register of Conventional Arms, government sources said Saturday.

The request will be made during a three-day session beginning Monday called "The Tokyo Workshop on Transparency in Armaments," which is being held to review the Japanese-proposed system approved by the U.N. last December.

Cuba abstained from voting and China did not take part in it when the resolution calling for establishment of the system was approved by the United Nations.

The workshop, the first of its kind hosted by Japan, will be attended by 31 representatives from 24 countries, including the United States, Russia, and China.

The system will request U.N. member nations to annually register with the U.N. their trade in offensive weapons such as missiles and combat planes.

The resolution took effect January 1 and registration is to start next year.

The workshop discussion will focus on the registry's immediate objectives and the prospects for future expansion of its coverage to encompass such things as national military stockpiles and procurement through national production, the sources said.

Regarding the problem of expanding the register beyond arms transfers to cover possession and production, Japan will try to meet calls from developing nations for such expansion, the sources said.

At last December's U.N. General Assembly, developing countries whose national defense depends mostly on arms imports, charged that promoting openness only in terms of arms transfer is unfair.

Chinese Arrested in Nagasaki for Illegal Entry

OW3105053492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0503 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Nagasaki, May 31 KYODO—Nagasaki maritime authorities arrested 17 Chinese Sunday on suspicion of unlawfully entering Japan in a small boat.

Skipper Lin Xinqiang and 16 others were found in an 86-ton wooden boat in waters off the town of Nomozaki, Nagasaki Prefecture, and were taken into custody Saturday.

The Chinese, aged between 24 and 54, were not carrying any passports or visas.

They reportedly told Japanese authorities they left Fujian Province at around 9 A.M. on May 20. The motive of their voyage was not immediately known.

Tokyo Adopts Sanctions Against New Yugoslavia

OW0106063892 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 1 Jun 92

[From the "NHK News" Program]

[Text] The British Government followed the United States on 1 June in imposing sanctions against new Yugoslavia formed by Serbia and Montenegro by freezing its assets in Britain. Likewise, the Japanese Government has also decided on the policy of initiating similar measures. This came as a result of the UN Security Council's adoption of a resolution on sanctions against new Yugoslavia on 30 May through such measures as banning of trade in oil and other commodities and freezing of its overseas assets.

According to an announcement by the British Exchequer, new Yugoslavia's assets in Britain were frozen as of 0001 Japan time on 1 June.

On the one hand, under the UN resolution on sanctions, international flights to new Yugoslavia have been banned, with arrivals and departures of internatinal flights suspended at the airport in Belgrade, the capital, on 30 May, thus stranding many passengers at the airport lounge.

On the other hand, in Bosnia-Hercegovina, where fighting is continuing, the Serbian armed forces and the Bosnia side have agreed to cease fire as of 0100 Japan time on 2 June.

As for the Japanese Government's measures, the Foreign Ministry held a meeting this morning to decide on the policy of initiating sanctions against new Yugoslavia. Of the Japanese Government's sanctions, as far as economic transanctions are concerned, the sanctions will be decided at the cabinet ministerial meeting within this week at the earliest. It is expected that trade with, remittances to, and new investments in Serbia and Montenegro will be frozen.

Furthermore, on the suspension of sports and cultural exchanges, notices will be issued to universities and sports exchange groups as soon as possible so as to put the government's sanctions into effect.

The Foreign Ministry will summon Yugoslavia's Ambassador to Japan Ranko Radulovic this afternoon to notify him of the Japanese Government's measures.

Foreign Ministry Issues Statement

OW0106104692 Tokyo KYODO in English 1024 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 (KYODO)—Japan announced a ban Monday on trade with the former Yugoslav republics of Serbia and Montenegro in line with a U.N.

Security Council resolution aimed at ending their involvement in fighting in the Republic of Bosnia and Hercegovina.

The Foreign Ministry issued a statement outlining the Japanese sanctions against the two former Yugoslav republics, which included a ban on all imports, as well as on all exports except food and medical supplies.

Officials said Yugoslav Ambassador to Japan Ranko Radulovic, representing Serbia and Montenegro in what Belgrade claims is a new, smaller Yugoslavia, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry for a briefing on the Japanese sanctions.

Radulovic was quoted as expressing "regret" over the measures, saying rather than facilitating a resolution of the conflict, international sanctions will merely accelerate deterioration of the general situation by imposing hardships on ordinary citizens.

Indicative of Japan's growing perception that Yugoslavia no longer exists as a state, Serbia and Montenegro were cited in the statement by their respective names.

The only reference to Yugoslavia was made in regard to Japan's strong hopes that peace will be rapidly restored to the whole of the "former Yugoslvaia."

Officials said Radulovic was told that in addition to the ban on trade, Japan will take measures to halt investment, financing, and other capital transactions with the two republics.

The envoy was also told that in line with Saturday's Security Council resolution, Japan will suspend air and sea services, as well as prohibit sports, cultural, and academic exchanges.

The officials said Japan did not act on the resolution's call for a trimming of the two republic's diplomatic presence in member countries as there are only three diplomats currently in Tokyo, including the ambassador.

Japan has yet to follow the European Community (EC) and the United States by recalling its ambassador to Belgrade, though officials indicated that step will be taken shortly.

The officials said Ambassador Taizo Nakamura left Tokyo for Belgrade on Saturday to prepare for an extended absence. Nakamura was in Tokyo for several weeks on personal leave.

Earlier in the day, an official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) told reporters that in principle, prospective Japanese exports to Yugoslavia will henceforth be subject to the approval of MITI Minister Kozo Watanabe.

MITI Vice Minister Yuji Tanahashi predicted the Japanese sanctions may not have much impact on trade with the former republics due to the low level of bilateral economic relations.

Burned Russian Arrives for Medical Treatment

OW3005123692 Tokyo KYODO in English 1232 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Niigata, May 30 (KYODO)—A 5-year-old Russian boy arrived Saturday in Nagaoka, Niigata Prefecture, to receive medical treatment for severe burns.

Mikhail Grigorian was taken to Nagaoka Red Cross Hospital after arriving at Niigata Airport aboard an Aeroflot flight with his father Gurgen and his grandmother who is a doctor.

The boy was burned over 40 percent of his body Tuesday evening when he fell into a bonfire near his home in Khabarovsk, Russia.

On Friday his father, an Aeroflot employee, asked the Japan Red Cross Society to receive Mikhail for treatments.

Doctors said Mikhail does not have a fever and is in relatively good spirits, but will have to be hospitalized for about two months because of fears of infection.

Fisheries Accord With Russia, ROK Denied

OW0106144092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1434 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 (KYODO)—The Japanese Fisheries Agency denied Monday a report that Russia, South Korea, and Japan have finalized an accord that deals with a dispute over fishing rights in waters around four disputed islands.

An agency official said there is no foundation to a report from Seoul that the three countries have reached an agreement.

He said he believes there are several points yet to be settled between Russia and South Korea, which are to meet soon on the matter.

After that meeting, the two countries and Japan are scheduled to resume negotiations, he said.

The fisheries negotiations started when Japan protested an agreement reached in February between Russia and South Korea.

In the accord, Russia agreed to allow South Korean fishing boats to operate in the waters around four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido, over which Japan claims sovereignty.

The three countries reached a basic arrangement that Japan will transfer to South Korea its fishing rights in triangular waters southeast of the northern Kuril islands it has obtained from Russia, and South Korea will give up fishing around the four islands, South Korean Foreign Ministry officials said.

Former ROK 'Comfort Woman' Testifies in Court

OW0106042892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0349 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 KYODO—Former South Korean conscripts in the Japanese army and an elderly woman forced to serve in military brothels in World War II testified in court Monday in a suit seeking compensation from the Japanese Government.

In the first hearing of the lawsuit at the Tokyo District Court, the 70-year-old South Korean woman explained her experiences as a "comfort woman" and how it affected her life afterward.

The woman told the court through an interpreter that she led a life "filled with tears and blood," adding that she could not reveal her past plight as a "comfort woman."

Some 100,000 to 200,000 women, mostly from Korea, which was under Japan's colonial rule from 1910 to 1945, were reportedly forced to work at the military brothels.

A total of 41 people, including nine "comfort women," former South Korean soldiers in the Imperial Japanese Army, and bereaved relatives filed the suit demanding that the Japanese Government pay each plaintiff 20 million yen in compensation.

In response, an attorney for the government reiterated its position of rejecting their demands.

Japan maintains that South Korea renounced all claims on Japan under the 1965 bilateral treaty, which normalized diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, however, offered South Korea a formal apology on the issue when he visited Seoul in January.

On Tuesday, the government is scheduled to interview former South Korean comfort women about their experiences as part of efforts to investigate the issue.

The government plans to complete its investigation by the end of this month and present the outcome to both South and North Korea.

Tokyo, Seoul To Liberalize Wireless Activities

OW0106100892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0853 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 (KYODO)—Japan and South Korea will start liberalizing amateur wireless activities around August between their citizens on a reciprocal basis, a senior Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications official said Monday.

For South Korea, the liberalization will be the first such case, and for Japan, the sixth, but its first in Asia.

The two governments are hoping bilateral exchanges will deepen through wirelesses on a private level, the official said.

The measure will allow a licensee that attained permission from one of the governments to be able to conduct wireless activities in the other country.

Activists Want 'Honorary White' Status Ended

OW0106140292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1352 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 (KYODO)—Antiapartheid activists will call on South African President F.W. de Klerk to formally withdraw the status of "honorary white," introduced over 30 years ago to promote relations with Japan.

De Klerk is scheduled to arrive for a four-day stay Wednesday, becoming the first South African president to pay an official visit to Japan.

Akira Kusuhara, author of "Apartheid and Japan," told a symposium Monday marking the visit he has been urging the elimination of the "dishonorable and shameful" honorary white category for 30 years, but to no avail.

He said the Japanese Government never lodged a formal protest over the label, which enabled Japanese diplomats and private citizens to live in whites-only neighborhoods and use public facilities normally restricted for whites.

Kusuhara and a coalition of human rights groups including Amnesty International Japan plan to petition Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Wednesday to demand a public retraction from De Klerk.

Panelist Kazuo Nukazawa, managing director of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), countered that there is "no point" in demanding a retraction because Japanese today are treated like any other foreigners.

"Why does (Kusuhara) want De Klerk to say something about what he felt several years ago?" Said Nukazawa, who last month visited South Africa on behalf of Japan's most powerful business organization to assess political and economic developments.

The honorary white term came into circulation in 1961 at the recommendation of a South African cabinet minister to encourage economic and diplomatic relations with Japan at a time when Pretoria was facing increasing international isolation.

Following the 1960 Sharpeville Massacre, many western countries became reluctant to invest.

Honorary white status was later extended to Chinese residents in 1985, when Taiwan was becoming an important economic partner.

The term became irrelevant last year when South African lawmakers repealed an act that classified citizens according to race.

SDF Said Ready for U.N. Cambodia Mission

OW3105134992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1333 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 31 (KYODO)—A retired general of Japan's Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) said Sunday that Japanese personnel could immediately join a ceasefire monitoring mission in Cambodia as part of a United Nations peacekeeping team.

Retired Gen. Toshiyuki Shikata, who visited Cambodia from May 24 to 28, said there is growing expectation that Japan will send troops to the war-torn country.

Shikata, who retired in March as head of the GSDF's Northern Army stationed in Hokkaido, became the first Japanese military analyst to visit Cambodia. He returned home Saturday.

Shikata said he went to Phnom Penh, where the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) is based, and western Siem Reap, northwest of the capital, where a local force is being deployed to monitor the nation's ceasefire.

He also said he met with UNTAC Chief Yasushi Akashi and John Sanderson, military commander of the UNTAC.

The U.N. mission is in accordance with the Cambodian Peace Agreement signed in Paris last October. The agreement formally ended a 13-year war between the Vietnamese-installed Phnom Penh government and three resistance factions.

Shikata said the deployment of military contingents that began last November is going fairly well.

But he said that if the Khmer Rouge faction with some 30,000 guerrillas around the area bordering Thailand clings to the maintenance of its troops, disarming the hostile groups by 70 percent each may not be implemented as smoothly as expected from mid-June through September.

Shikata said Japan can immediately dispatch personnel to Cambodia to join U.N. ceasefire monitoring teams, which consist of unarmed individual officers. He also said the participating nations in the U.N. mission are counting heavily on Japan's participation.

"It seemed to me there is a greater risk of getting involved in traffic accidents in urban areas and contracting endemic diseases, rather than encountering accidental military conflicts and accidents while removing mines," he said.

Tokyo To Dispatch Volunteer Corps to Cambodia

OW0106133092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1304 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 (KYODO)—Japan will dispatch a small corps of the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) to Cambodia in July to ascertain how a larger delegation can help reconstruct the country, government sources said Monday.

In Phnom Penh, Japanese Ambassador Yukio Imagawa handed over to Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong a letter announcing Tokyo's formal decision to dispatch the volunteers.

The initial JOCV team of five or six will include agricultural specialists and medical and nursing personnel who will survey the situation in the war-torn nation for the larger delegation expected to be dispatched by year's end.

It will be the first time in 22 years JOCV personnel, Japan's Peace Corps, will visit Cambodia since they were pulled out in 1970 with the eruption of civil strife.

The government, which is struggling to pass a controversial bill to allow Japanese troops to join U.N. peacekeeping operations, indicated in February it was considering dispatching the volunteers to make a personnel contribution to the reconstruction of Cambodia.

Plan To Accept More Foreign Trainees Announced

OW3005090092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0841 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 30 (KYODO)—The Justice Ministry announced Saturday a plan to create a system to accept more foreign trainees in Japan.

Under the new system, foreign trainees will be able to acquire skills while working at Japanese companies after completing training for a certain period, ministry officials said.

The ministry also plans to carry out revision of immigration regulations to expand acceptance of skilled workers, the officials said.

But they said the ministry will follow current policy prohibiting unskilled foreigners to work in Japan, noting that there is a need for national consensus on the matter.

The ministry also said it will not offer illegal foreign workers "amnesty" as called for by human rights groups.

According to immigration authorities, an estimated 160,000 foreigners are now working illegally in Japan.

Foreign Minister Watanabe Hospitalized 31 May

OW3105132892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1315 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 31 (KYODO)—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe was admitted to a Tokyo hospital Sunday afternoon because of an acute intestinal illness, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Watanabe complained of serious abdominal pain in the afternoon, they said.

He has maintained clear consciousness, the officials said.

The foreign minister needs complete rest for a few days and must undergo detailed health checks, they said.

He will be absent from last-stage House of Councillors deliberations on a peacekeeping operations bill, starting Monday, they said.

The bill is aimed at sending Japanese troops abroad to join United Nations peacekeeping missions.

Watanabe, 68, has been deputy prime minister and concurrently foreign minister since last November.

He unsuccessfully ran against Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in a race last fall for the presidency of the country's governing Liberal Democratic Party, which carries with it the post of prime minister.

Medical Diagnosis Reported

OW0106082892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0819 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 (KYODO)—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe is suffering from the twin problems of a gallstone and a biliary tract infection, his eldest son Yoshimi said Monday.

He said the foreign minister may have to undergo an operation.

Watanabe was hospitalized Sunday with acute stomach pain.

Expected To Undergo Operation

OW0106120192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1129 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 (KYODO)—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe is expected to undergo an operation next week to remove a gallstone and treat a biliary tract infection, a family member said Monday.

Yoshimi Watanabe, the foreign minister's eldest son, informed reporters of the impending operation but said there is no cause for alarm.

"There is absolutely nothing in the situation that is especially serious," he said, adding, "We are leaving everything up to the doctors."

Watanabe was hospitalized Sunday at Tokyo Women's Medical College Hospital after complaining of acute intestinal pains and was given a detailed examination Monday by doctors at the hospital's Digestive Organ Medical Center.

The younger Watanabe said that based on the results of the examinations, the 68-year-old foreign minister will likely have to undergo an operation.

A senior official of Watanabe's faction within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party remarked that the operation would have to take place next week and confirmed that the foreign minister's stay in the hospital will probably be extended.

Watanabe's son said mis father's pain has subsided considerably and his temperature, pulse and blood pressure are about normal.

The foreign minister is reportedly able to walk but is being moved about on a stretcher to avoid stress.

The younger Watanabe said his father had slept well. [Words indistinct] newspapers and watched television during the morning.

He quoted his father as saying he regrets being hospitalized as the Diet's debate on the government bill aimed at sending Self-Defense Forces personnel on U.N. peacekeeping missions enters the critical final phase.

In a related development, Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato announced that Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will assume Watanabe's duties as fdreign minister for the time being.

Miyazawa will take the floor in the Diet in Watanabe's place to answer questions about the peacekeeping bill.

SDPJ on Threat To Filibuster PKO Bill

OW3005034892 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] At today's meeting, the secretaries general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and the opposition Komeito and Democratic Socialist Party called on the main opposition Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ] to cooperate with the rest of the parties for smooth passage of the UN Peacekeeping Operations [PKO] Cooperation Bill in the House of Councillors. The main opposition party, however, did not budge on its uncompromising position on the bill.

During the meeting, the secretaries general of the three parties asked the SDPJ to cooperate with the rest of the parties to ensure the smooth passage of the bill in the House of Councillors, pointing out that public hearings, a prerequisite for Diet passage of the measure, had ended.

In response, SDPJ Secretary General Sadao Yamahana said: Even if the bill is revised again, there will be no change in the essence of the bill, which is designed to dispatch the Self-Defense Forces overseas. A protest against the PKO bill, over which public opinion remains divided, via a filibuster should not be equated with physical resistance but, rather, with a minority party's rights under a parliamentary democracy. In this way, the secretary general of the main opposition party indicated that the SDPJ will not budge concerning its refusal to compromise on the PKO bill.

Rengo Sangiin Plans To Vote Against PKO Bill

OW3005055592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0518 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 30 KYODO—Minor opposition party Rengo Sangiin said Saturday it will vote against a modified bill aimed at sending Japanese troops abroad to join United Nations peacekeeping operations [PKO]. Leading members of the Rengo Sangiin met Saturday to discuss their position to the modified peacekeeping operations bill and agreed not to follow the governing Liberal Democratic Party and two opposition parties, which had hammered out an agreement on a modified bill, the officials said.

Rengo Sangiin, a 13-member party in the House of Councillors, conveyed the decision to the LDP, Komeito and Democratic Socialist Party, they said. The three parties had asked Rengo Sangiin to join them in passing the government-sponsored legislation bill.

In a meeting Friday, the secretaries general of the three parties agreed to require prior Diet approval before Self-Defense Forces (SDF) troops could be sent on U.N. peacekeeping missions. The bill also would delay SDF participation in U.N. peacekeeping forces for some time and call for a review of the legislation three years after its enactment.

The LDP, Komeito and the DSP are set to vote on the bill in the opposition-controlled House of Councillors next week and send it to the more powerful House of Representatives in a bid to pass it before the current 150-day ordinary Diet session ends June 21. The Social Democratic Party and the Japanese Communist Party have vowed to resist a vote, threatening to take go-slow tactics or to throw no-confidence motions against the cabinet and ministers to delay the passage of the bill through the upper house.

Rengo Sangiin Secretary General Tasaburo Furukawa said at a news conference Saturday that his group hopes there will be "orderly voting" in the upper house and that it would not join Social Democrats in taking "snails' pace" filibuster tactics. Rengo Sangiin is an affiliate of Japan's largest labor organization Rengo—the 8 million-strong Japanese trade union confederation, which also provides support for the SDP and DSP.

Even without backing from Rengo Sangiin, the LDP, Komeito and DSP are confident they can pass the modified bill through the upper house since they hold a combined 144 seats in the 252-seat house.

Watanabe, Party Leaders Comment on PKO Bill

OW3005125492 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 30 May 92

[From the "NHK News" program]

[Text] The tug of war on the Peacekeeping [PKO] Cooperation Bill will enter its final stage next week. Regarding the PKO bill, remarks were made successively by top leaders of the ruling and opposition parties. First, speaking today at a meeting held in Kiryu, Gunma prefecture, Foreign Minister Watanabe touched on the PKO bill. He indicated his view that if the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party [DSP]—possibly together with Rengo [Trade Union Confederation]—jointly make considerable efforts in dealing with the issue, the bills would be adopted at the current Diet session and thus the House of Representatives would not be dissolved.

[Begin Watanabe video recording] We will never railroad the bills. We will have to put the bills to a vote sometime during the discussions. However, when a vote is taken we will adopt the bills peacefully. It is hoped that an unfavorable situation—in which the opposition disturbs the adoption of the bills by pouring liquid into a committee chairman's seat, holding a hand over the chairman's mouth, or pulling his necktie or tearing his shirts—can be avoided. If such a situation can be avoided, there is no need to dissolve the House of Representatives. [end Watanabe video recording]

In this way, Foreign Minister Watanabe checked any possible physical resistance by the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ]. He then said: It is hoped the LDP, Komeito, and the DSP—and possibly Rengo—will take joint action in a democratic manner. Consequently, although it may take some time, the PKO bill will be adopted and the idea of dissolving the House of Representatives will fade away. He said that if the LDP, Komeito, and the DSP, together with Rengo, should make considerable efforts toward dealing with the bill, then the PKO bill will be adopted at the current Diet session and the House of Representatives would not be dissolved.

Meanwhile, speaking at a lecture in Nagoya today, Komeito Chairman Ishida indicated his party's intention to take part in adopting the PKO bill, even if the bill is opposed by the SDPJ and other parties. In his speech, Chairman Ishida said that taking into consideration the feelings of those opposed to the bill, the LDP, Komeito, and the DSP have agreed to make revisions to the bill, including the freezing of participation in peacekeeping forces and the further revision of the bill three years in the future. The SDPJ maintains it will oppose the bill as much as possible, but they should not resort to theatrical physical resistance. This issue will enter a climax around 4 and 5 June next week. Chairman Ishida then said that for its part Komeito will deal with this issue with the aim of adopting the bill. In this way, Chairman Ishida indicated that even if the SDPJ should take action to prevent the adoption of the bill, Komeito will take part in adopting the bill as long as there is no big confusion in the Diet.

Three Parties Submit Modified Peacekeeping Bill

OW0106043592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0409 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Tokyo, June 1 KYODO—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and two opposition parties submitted a jointly modified United Nations Peacekeeping Cooperation bill Monday to a special committee of the House of Councillors, officials of the parties said.

The LDP, Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) presented the revised bill to Shinichiro Shimojo, head of the upper house special committee on international peace cooperation, the officials said. [passage omitted]

Secretaries general of the LDP, Komeito, SDP, and Rengo Sangiin met Monday and agreed that voting on the bill should be carried out orderly "in accordance with rules of parliamentary democracy," officials of the parties said.

SDP Chairman Makoto Tanabe said his party will not resort to physical resistance to block passage of the bill in the upper house, party officials said.

Tanabe made the remarks during a meeting with senior members of trade unions affiliated with Rengo.

He said SDP members will not take such steps as surrounding the upper house president and snatching his microphone during the vote.

Rengo Chairman Akira Yamagishi called on the SDP to refrain from such tactics.

Takeshita Urges Early Action on PKO Bill

OW0106094092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0935 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Buenos Aires, June 1 (KYODO)—Former Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita on Monday called on the opposition-controlled House of Councillors to act quickly on a revised peacekeeping contribution bill to allow Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to join United Nations peacekeeping operations [PKO].

Takeshita made the remarks in a meeting with reporters during a stopover in Buenos Aires before heading for Rio de Janeiro in Brazil to attend the Earth Summit June 3-14.

Takeshita, who leads the largest faction of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), said he thinks the upper house lawmakers will debate the revised bill for only a short period.

He said the upper house already has deliberated more than 100 hours on the original bill.

The LDP and two middle-of-the-road opposition parties—Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP)—submitted the amended bill Monday to a special committee of the upper house on international peacekeeping cooperation.

The amended bill requires the Diet to give advance approval to sending SDF personnel to participate in U.N. peacekeeping forces.

The three parties still hope to pass the bill through the upper house by June 5 despite a threat by Japan's largest opposition party, the Social Democratic Party (SDP), of a slow-walk vote and other tactics to delay the voting in the chamber.

Takeshita said he would not discuss the possibility of elections for both the upper and lower houses this summer, saying that only Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa has the authority to dissolve the 512-seat lower house.

An upper house election will be held in late July. Political analysts have speculated that a lower house election will be called for the same time to seek support from voters for the peacekeeping cooperation bill, if it fails to pass through the upper house.

SDP Chairman Says Double Election Possible

OW3005064792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0516 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Utsunomiya, May 30 KYODO—Social Democratic Party Chairman Makoto Tanabe said Saturday there remains a possibility of simultaneous elections for both houses of the Diet this summer.

Speaking at an event organized by the party's prefectural chapter, Tanabe said, "I don't think Prime Minister (Kiichi) Miyazawa is resolved (on a call for simultaneous elections), but it may happen."

The leader of the country's No. 1 opposition party said that simultaneous elections, if called, may be set for July 26, the date expected for the regular election for the House of Councillors. Tanabe said if Miyazawa dissolves the House of Representatives to pave the way for simultaneous elections, it would come close to the end of the current session of the Diet, set for June 21.

Despite calls for double elections from some leading conservative politicians, Miyazawa has repeatedly denied intentions of dissolving the lower house coinciding with the triennial election for the upper chamber.

Kanemaru Recommends 7-8 Trillion-Yen Budget

OW3105033692 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Kanemaru, vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, is now visiting Kurayoshi City, Shimane Prefecture, on a stumping tour. Addressing a meeting in the city, Vice President Kanemaru touched on the measures to stimulate the Japanese economy and indicated that a supplementary budget of 7 to 8 trillion yen and further cuts in the official discount rate will be needed to stimulate the economy in the future. He also said that the economy continues to be in a downward slide and it is necessary to reverse this by compiling a supplementary budget of 7 to 8 trillion yen. This is what politicians should do. Regarding the official discount rate, Mr. Kanemaru indicated that the rate should be further cut.

Commenting on a demand from the opposition parties to reduce taxes, Mr. Kanemaru said that any tax cuts may have no effect on the recovery of the economy.

Parties Agree To Vote on Financial Reform Bill

OW0106105192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1039 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 (KYODO)—Prospects for an early passage of a bill that would overhaul the nation's financial systems have brightened because the ruling and opposition parties agreed to vote on the bill at a key panel within the House of Representatives this week.

Party sources said the No. 1 opposition Social Democratic Party reached a basic agreement with the ruling Liberal Democratic Party Monday on voting on the bill as early as Tuesday, at the lower house's finance committee.

The development, coupled with an earlier compromise over the issue of how to regulate so-called "nonbanks" that had pitted the ruling party against the opposition, makes it certain the bill will clear the lower house and be sent to the House of Councillors by the end of this week.

Diet debate over the financial reform bill has been stalled because the opposition party demanded tighter regulations on nonbanks such as credit firms and other lending insitutions other than insurance companies in exchange for supporting the bill.

The bill aims to decontrol substantially the nation's financial system by allowing banks and securuties firms to enter each other's turf through subsidiaries.

Revision of Copyright Act for TV Considered

OW3105062392 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 31 May 92

[From "NHK News" Program]

[Text] The Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] has decided to review the current copyright act concerning TV dramas and documentaries. Under the current act, when video companies want to make a copy of TV dramas or documentaries, they are required to obtain approval of all TV staff members, including performers, who produced them. According to a revised copyright act proposed by the MITI, the companies will be required to obtain approval only of TV stations or producing companies.

Contrary to the copyright act for TV dramas and documentaries, video companies can make a copy of movies by obtaining approval only of producers. Under the current situation, video companies sometimes face difficulties when they want to make a copy of TV programs produced in cooperation with TV stations of other countries, where video companies are required to obtain approval only of producers when they want to make a copy.

In order to rectify the situation, the MITI has decided to begin studying measures to revise the current act so that video companies can make a copy of TV dramas and documentaries by obtaining approval only of TV stations or producers. It plans to consult with the Agency of Cultural Affairs [ACA] on the issue. However, since the ACA has already begun studying measures to protect rights of film directors and actors and actresses—a direction which goes against the MITI plan—heated arguments are expected on the video copyright.

Global Environment Preservation Efforts Urged

OW3105122292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1207 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Buenos Aires, May 31 (KYODO)—Japan's former Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto urged the global community Saturday to learn lessons from Japan, which he said overcame serious industrial pollution as it achieved economic growth.

Hashimoto, who currently heads an environmental policy panel within the country's governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), said he has prepared a proposal for the upcoming Earth Summit. The 12- day session is set to open Wednesday in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

In his recommendations to the Earth Summit, or the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), Hashimoto said that Japan will commit itself to playing a leading role in the global environmental field.

He also called on other nations to increase their awareness and make independent efforts to tackle the environmental issue.

After resigning as finance minister in October 1991, Hashimoto established the LDP panel and has promoted studies on environmental policies.

Hashimoto's political mentor, former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, has also devoted himself to global environmental issues.

As head of an international forum on the environment, Takeshita will speak at an Earth Summit session Thursday discussing ways to raise funds to help preserve the global environment, Japanese officials said.

Hashimoto said Takeshita will submit his recommendations to Earth Summit Secretary General Maurice Strong.

Hashimoto acknowledged in his recommendations the medium- and long-range usefulness for huge amounts paid by the Japanese Government to overcome a series of pollution problems that emerged in the 1960s.

He also pointed out that the efforts of Japanese businesses working to improve unproductive antipollution measures led to rationalization and technical innovation, and boosted the Japanese macroeconomy.

Hashimoto, citing government assistance to promote corporate efforts, asked other nations to learn lessons from Japan's experiences to tackle the global environmental issue more positively.

He said the Japanese Government encouraged businesses to invest in installing antipollution facilities, and offered financial and technological assistance to back up firms's antipollution efforts.

Regarding Japan's future stance on the global environmental issue, Hashimoto said Japan is in a position to play a pivotal role while taking highly feasible steps to preserve the global environment and shoulder responsibility.

Hashimoto flew to Argentina after attending a New York meeting of former financial authorities of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations that wrapped up Friday.

Toyota To Phase Out Ozone-Depleting Agent

OW2905114292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1114 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Nagoya, May 29 KYODO—Toyota Motor Corp. Friday said it will phase out the use of trichloroethane, a chemical believed to deplete the ozone layer, by the autumn of 1995.

Trichloroethane is widely used in Japan as a cleaning agent.

Toyota last year used 4,050 tons of the chemical to clean bumpers and other plastic parts and metal parts.

Company officials said Toyota will introduce alternative cleaning processes at an estimated cost of 10 billion yen.

North Korea

U.S.-ROK Actions at MAC Meeting Condemned

SK3005170492 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1621 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Panmunjom May 30 (KCNA)—The spokesman of the Korean People's Army-Chinese People's Volunteers side at the Military Armistice Commission [MAC] published a statement Saturday on the disgraceful act of the U.S. side grossly violating the Armistice Agreement and making a mockery of the Armistice body.

He said:

"General" of the South Korean Army set by the U.S. side on May [as received] who unilaterally entered the conference room of the Military Armistice Commission and came out of it after sitting at a chair for a while and gave a "news briefing" outside the conference room and kicked up a row, alleging that the meeting of the MAC ended abortive due to the North side.

Such act of the U.S. side is a flagrant violation of the Armistice Agreement and an act fooling the armistice body.

According to the Armistice Agreement, the MAC operates as a joint body and its meeting can be opened only under agreement between the sides.

We had never received from the U.S. side an official telephone message or letter proposing a MAC meeting this time and no agreement had been reached on it between the sides.

Nevertheless, the U.S. side made a show of itself inside and outside the Panmunjom conference room. This cannot but be a tragicomedy without precedent in the history of armistice.

The armistice body has been virtually paralysed ever since early last year owing to the unilateral act of the U.S. side.

The world knows that all the official activities of the senior members including the meeting of the Armistice Commission were stopped due to the unjustifiable act of the U.S. side in illegally putting up a "general" of the South Korean Army, which is neither a signatory to the Armistice Agreement nor a member of the "United Nations force", as the "senior member" of one side of the Armistice Commission on March 25 last year.

We have never recognized the "general" of the South Korea Army, who has neither qualification nor authority, as the "senior member" of the "United Nations forces" side and the meeting of the Armistice Commission cannot be held as long as the U.S. side puts up a "general" of the South Korean Army as its "senior member."

But the "general" of the South Korean Army, styling himself a "senior member," brought to Panmunjom the so-called "incident of infiltration" which was claimed to have occurred in the Demilitarized Zone in the central sector of the front on May 22. The row the "general" of the South Korean Army raised by unilaterally bringing a large group of reporters to the MAC conference room made it self-evident that the "incident of infiltration" raised by them was a drama for launching into a tricky propaganda offensive against us. As for the "incident", as already reported, it was a drama written by the South Korean authorities to put a spoke in the wheel of the favorably developing North-South dialogue, benumb the anti-"government," anti-fascist struggle of the people for democracy and reunification and bridge over the political crisis in a state of confusion.

The U.S. side must know clearly that our side will not recognize the "general" of the South Korean Army as a "senior member" of the "U.S. forces" side in the future either unless it provides legal and institutional mechanism for us to sit at one table with him and it must no more do act of creating obstacles to the normal activites of the amristice body.

We will watch the future act of the U.S. side.

U.S. Charges of Missile Sales Denied, Condemned

SK3005104692 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 30 May 92

["Like Thief Crying 'Stop Thief'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 30 (KCNA)—Of late the United States and some countries following it spread groundless false reports that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is selling missiles to the Middle East countries.

This is a despicable false propaganda intended to impair the international authority of our Republic and tarnish its image by fabricating things and thus drive a wedge between the DPRK and Arab countries which are now on good terms with each other.

We always maintain that peace should be preserved in the Middle East and the problem of this region be solved peacefully and impartially in the interests of the countries concerned.

Proceeding from its peaceloving foreign policy, the DPRK has never engaged itself in any forms of arms sale.

As far as arms sales is concerned, it is the United States, the biggest dealer of destruction weapons, that must be brought under fire.

While crying for the promotion of the peace process in the Middle East, the United States exported to other countries 33,000 million dollars worth of lethal weapons last year alone, two thirds of them to the Middle East countries.

This notwithstanding, the United States is taking issue with the DPRK this or that way. This is an act of a thief crying "stop thief" [no end punctuation as received]

We hope that the U.N. resolution on arms embargo will be solved in a fair and substantial way.

The United States must stop such high-handed act of taking issue with others, trying to find an excuse to meddle in our internal affairs by fabricating a shocking incident, and give up its anachronistic anti-DPRK campaign.

Further Activities of U.S. Visitors Reported

'Exchange of Opinions' Held

SK2905145592 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] An exchange of opinions between a delegation of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] and the American Freedom Coalition delegation was held on 29 May in Pyongyang. Present from our side were Comrade Kim Yong-sun, chairman of the SPA Foreign Affairs Committee and secretary of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee; Kim Hyong-u, SPA deputy and vice director of a department of the WPK Central Committee; Yi Song-ho, SPA deputy and vice chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries; and other functionaries concerned. Present from the other side were members of the delegation led by former Congressman Richard Ichord, cochairman of the American Freedom Coalition.

During the meeting, our side informed the other side about the domestic and foreign policies of our party and the Republic's government and about our country's situation.

Richard Ichord, delegation head, who spoke next, said that the delegation is making efforts to improve relations between the United States and the DPRK. He also said that the purpose of the delegation's visit to the DPRK is to contribute to improving the two countries' relations. He continued to say that rather than a series of differing opinions and differing systems between the United States and the DPRK, the two countries have more common points for improving relations. He emphasized that Korea's reunification issue must be resolved by the Koreans themselves. He said that he expresses deep gratitude to President Kim Il-song and Secretary Kim Chong-il, who are showing deep interest in the delegation's visit to the DPRK.

Douglas MacArthur II, former assistant secretary of state for congressional relations, said that the Americans want practical improvement in relations between North and South Korea. He pointed out that the Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, and Cooperation and Exchange between the North and South is receiving a favorable response in the United States. He said that measures being taken by our government, including on the issue of nuclear inspection, are very important and that this will be an opportunity for us to make further approaches in the future. He continued to emphasize that doors can be opened in improving relations between the United States and the DPRK.

The exchange of opinions was carried out in a good atmosphere.

Group Visits Kim Il-song's Birthplace

SK2905160092 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1542 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Pyongyang May 29 (KCNA)—The delegation of the American Freedom Coalition headed by former U.S. Congressman Richard Ichord, co-chairman of the coalition, visited Mangyongdae, the old home of President Kim Il-song, today.

It was accompanied by Kim Yong-sun, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Supreme People's

Assembly and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK]; Kim Hyong-u, vice-director of a department of the C.C., WPK; and Yi Song-ho, vice-chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries.

Hearing an explanation about the revolutionary history of the great leader President Kim Il-song and his revolutionary family, the guests saw with keen interest mementoes preserved in the old home with utmost care.

They posed for a photograph in token of their visit to the old home in Mangyongdae.

The delegation went round the Mangyongdae School Children's Palace.

After going round circle rooms of the palace, the guests saw a performance of the art circle members of the palace.

They also visited the Tower of the Chuche Idea, the Grand People's Study House and the May Day Stadium and went round the Mangyongdae Fun Fair.

Delegation Tours Sites

SK0106060692 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0528 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 1 (KCNA)—A delegation of the American Freedom Coalition led by former congressman Richard Ichord, co-chairman of the coalition, now on a Korea visit, visited the West Sea barrage Sunday [31 May].

Hearing an explanation that the Korean people and People's Army soldiers built the grand monumental edifice by damming off the rough sea extending 8 kilometres, the guests went round the barrage facilities with keen interest.

They visited the Taean heavy machine complex.

Earlier, the delegation went to Panmunjom.

The guests went round the conference room where the armistice talks were held, the hall where the Armistice Agreement was signed and the conference room of the Military Armistice Commission. They also saw the concrete wall built by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities in the South side's area of the Military Demarcation Line.

Noting that the division of Korea was caused by super powers, the head of the delegation said the question of Korean reunification should be solved by the efforts of Koreans themselvs.

He wished the people in the North and the South of Korea success in their efforts to achieve unity and reunification.

The delegation toured Mt. Kumgang, a renowned scenic place of Korea.

Meets Kim Il-song

SK0106102392 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1009 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 1 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the visiting delegation of the American Freedom Coalition led by former U.S. Congressman Richard Ichord, co-chairman of the coalition.

Present on the occasion were Kim Yong-sun, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK]; deputies to the SPA Kim Hyong-u, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, and Yi Song-ho, vice-chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

He was presented with a gift by the guests.

He arranged a luncheon for them.

Presents Gift for Kim Chong-il

SK0106110492 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 1 (KCNA)—The American Freedom Coalition and its delegation visiting Korea presented a gift to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in joint name.

The gift was handed to Kim Yong-sun, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Supreme People's Assembly and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, by former U.S. Congressman Richard Ichord, co-chairman of the Coalition.

Need To Inspect U.S. Nuclear Bases Stressed

SK3105032692 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0021 GMT 31 May 92

[NODONG SINMUN 31 May commentary: "Act of Treachery Dancing to Tune of Foreign Forces"]

[Text] The South Korean authorities are continuously building obstacles to implementing the joint denuclearization declaration.

What one should not overlook in the South side's act is that, while playing with such preposterous words as challenge inspection, inspection of general military bases, principle of reciprocity, and so forth, the South side is opposed to overall inspection of U.S. nuclear bases and nuclear weapons in South Korea.

Such an act by the South side was undisguisedly committed during the fifth meeting of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Commission [JNCC].

As is clear to everyone, general military bases and nuclear bases are of a basically different nature, and the issue of these two bases cannot not be discussed by mixing them together.

The joint denuclearization declaration is designed to confirm the existence or nonexistence of nuclear bases and nuclear weapons and to realize denuclearization. Therefore, no provision in the declaration stipulates the issue of inspection of general military bases.

This notwithstanding, the South side put forward challenge inspection, inspection of sites of the same number, and so forth, which are not included in the agreement, and claimed that only when we include general military bases as targets of inspection would the South side be ready to include U.S. nuclear bases and nuclear weapons as targets of inspection. Is this not indeed a preposterous act?

The South side's claim is an unreasonable assertion presented in a bid to exclude U.S. nuclear bases and nuclear weapons in South Korea as targets of inspection. This is an intolerable act of treachery to evade resolution of the nuclear issue and to nullify the joint denuclearization declaration.

In order to realize the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, the issue of U.S. nuclear bases and nuclear weapons in South Korea should be correctly resolved first.

The nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula came into being and has been put on agenda because of the U.S. nuclear bases and nuclear weapons in South Korea.

The United States reduced South Korea into the largest nuclear outpost in the Far East while implementing colonial rule over it. According to even (?open) reports, many nuclear storage facilities were built across South Korea, and nuclear weapons deployed in the facilities number as many as 1,000. As a result, our country faces the constant danger of nuclear war.

Although the South Korean authorities recently made a declaration on nuclear nonexistence, no one can be sure about its truth. Moreover, the United States, the very master of nuclear weapons, has not spoken a single word about them.

Under these circumstances, suspicions about U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea have not yet been washed off. In fact, conducting nuclear inspection by excluding U.S. nuclear bases and nuclear weapons in South Korea is a farce; it is the same as not conducting the inspection. This will only result in diluting the significance of the joint denuclearization declaration.

In a long run, the South side's act means it wants to keep intact U.S. nuclear bases and nuclear weapons in South Korea and to nullify the joint denuclearization declaration, which was agreed upon by the North and South.

All facts show that although the South Korean authorities pretend they are interested in resolving the nuclear issue, they have no intention, not even the slightest, to realize denuclearization.

The South Korean authorities, even after they pledged denuclearization of the Korean peninsula to the entire nation, took a position of refusing denuclearization at the implementation stage while maintaining an unclear attitude. Their act is being manipulated by the dark hands of the United States, which is scheming to continue its policy of militarily occupying South Korea and making it a nuclear base.

It is an open secret that when the historic agreement and joint denuclearization declaration were adopted between the North and South, the United States was displeased with this and instructed the South Korean rulers to withhold its implementation.

The South Korean authorities, by not discarding their disgraceful attitude of following the United States, are trying to maintain foreign nuclear bases and nuclear weapons in South Korea in compliance with their master's demand and bring nuclear calamities to fellow countrymen by collaborating with outside forces. This is an anti-peace, anti-national criminal act no one would forgive.

Whether one can root out the nuclear threat from the Korean peninsula depends totally on how the issue of U.S. nuclear bases and nuclear weapons is resolved.

The denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is an important matter directly linked to the fate of the nation. If the South Korean authorities truly intend to resolve the nuclear issue, they should stop now the act of treachery of dancing to the tune of outside forces. They should open U.S. bases and nuclear weapons hidden in South Korea and include them as targets of inspection. Thus, they should assume a sincere attitude toward realizing denuclearization.

If the South Korean rulers, running counter to the aspirations and desire of the nation and people, desperately build obstacles toward implementation of the joint denuclearization declaration, they cannot avoid the people's curses and denunciation.

South 'Distorting' Truth of Nuclear Committee

SK3005172692 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1631 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Pyongyang May 30 (KCNA)—Choe U-chin, chairman of the North side to the North-South Nuclear Control Joint Committee, issued a statement today regarding remarks of the spokesman for the South side to the inter-Korean high-level talks distorting the truth of the session of the Nuclear Control Joint Committee.

According to him, the South side's spokesman, speaking at a roundtable with reporters on May 28, distorted facts by alleging that the meeting of the Nuclear Control Joint

Committee that had been underway between the North and the South came to a "rupture."

At the fifth meeting of the joint committee held at Panmunjom on May 27 the sides agreed to set the date of the sixth meeting through the liaison offices of the North and the South in Panmunjom after discussion, Choe U-chin said, and went on:

This notwithstanding, the South side's spokeman who was not present at the meeting that day spread the false talk that the negotiations on the nuclear problem came to a "rupture." We cannot help but think that they seek in this an insidious aim to upturn the agreement between the sides and breakup the meeting of the joint committee.

Our doubt cannot be regarded as unfounded when we link the silly talk of the South side's spokesman with the wrong stand the South side had maintained all along at the meeting between the sides for the solution of the nuclear problem.

As is known well, five rounds of Nuclear Control Joint Committee meetings and three rounds of contact of members have been held between the North and the South, and at these meetings the South side has never shown a stance and attitude to faithfully implement the joint declaration on denuclearization.

Aleady at the first meeting of the joint committee we brought forward a draft agreement on the implementation of the joint declaration on denuclearization and made all efforts for its settlement.

The South side, however, has not produced a draft agreement till today, going back on its promise which the sides made and declare to the nation, and took an attitude of avoiding even its discussion.

And it doggedly took exception to separating the problem of nuclear weapons and nuclear bases from that of nuclear substance and nuclear facilities and laying it down in explicit term in an independent clause in the rules of inspection so that the U.S. nuclear weapons and bases, the part and parcel of denuclearization on the Korean peninsula, may be inspected.

The South side has failed to do or accept what it was obliged to as a dialogue parter on which denclearization is binding, but it rather insisted on an "inspection of same numbers" based on "reciprocity" and "special inspection" which cannot be found in the agreement between the sides and which ignore the specific conditions on the Korean peninsula, thus putting a spoke in the wheel of the talks. Further, it has deliberately created difficulties in an early adoption of the inspection rules by calling for an inspection of ordinary military bases, a question which has nothing to do with the denuclearization. We cannot but take a very serious note of the fact that the South side's spokesman talked about a "forcible inspection by the U.N. Security Council," uttering insolent words about the inspection of us by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA].

This is an impudent act of throwing a wet blanket over the IAEA's inspection activity and impairing its authority and of grossly insulting the international organization. It is an insidious move to avoid joint efforts of the North and the South to implement the joint declaration on denuclearization to the letter and to turn the U.N. arena into a ground for showdown between the North and the South over the nuclear problem.

If the South side really has the least intention to denuclearize the Korean peninsula and save all the fellow countrymen from a nuclear danger, it must stop trying to soil the work of the North- South Nuclear Control Joint Committee and approach the talks with a sincere stand and attitude.

If it persists in creating difficulties in implementing the joint declaration on denuclearization and the provisions already agreed upon between the North and the South, putting the future of the work of the North-South Nuclear Control Joint Committee in peril, it would be held wholly responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom.

As for the date of the sixth meeting of the joint committee, we consider the 16th of June which we had already proposed to the South side suitable.

N-S Exchanges Subcommittee Meeting Reported

SK3005173192 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1539 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Panmunjom May 30 (KCNA)—The fourth meeting of the Cooperation and Exchange Subcommittee of the North-South high-level talks was held here today behind closed doors.

At the end of the meeting the chairman of the North side briefed reporters on it.

According to him, the North side clarified its views regarding the outstanding questions in debates on the annexed agreement.

Referring to the content of the annexed agreement over which the views of the sides are divided, it said its stand was to allow all the people to participate in economic cooperation and exchange without restrictions, while the South side argued that only those authorized should be permitted to participate in them.

The North side proposed to open traffic routes when military confrontation has been removed, but the South side said it could not accept it, ignoring the reality. The former called for the removal of the legal and institutional devices that stand in the way of free travels and contacts between members of the nation, but the latter tried to avoid it. And the North side urged the South to accept its just and reasonable proposals.

Turning to the argument of the South side that even detailed measures regarding the solution of the humanitarian issue should be agreed upon at the authorities level and the Red Cross bodies should implement them practically, the North side refuted it as an act of disregarding the universal ideal and principles of the Red Cross and, furthermore, encroaching on its rights and functions, and urged it to withdraw the argument.

It tabled a new annexed agreement revised by taking the South side's views into full consideration.

The South side said it welcomed the acceptance of part of its proposal by the North side. But it insisted on letting only persons endorsed by the authorities conduct economic cooperation and exchange, proposed to transfer to the Political Subcommittee the question of abolishing legal and institutional mechanism obstructive to the free travel and contact between members of the nation and refused to accept the North side's proposal to open first sea routes for economic cooperation and exchange and open other routes of traffic depending on the dispelling of military confrontation and argued in a far-fetched manner that the authorities should continue to intervene in the humanitarian problem.

Concluding the talks, our side urged the South side to show a more go-ahead stance for a success of the talks.

It was agreed to hold the fifth meeting on June 26.

Article Says South Promotes Confrontation

SK2905135892 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0015 GMT 28 May 92

[NODONG SINMUN 28 May special article: "They Must End the Deep-Rooted Sense of Confrontation"]

[Text] The historic agreement between the North and South has been adopted and effectuated, but the political and military confrontation between the North and South has not been resolved yet. This is closely related to the fact that the South Korean authorities oppose North-South reconciliation and unity and are persistently pursuing the policy of confrontation.

Even now the South Korean authorities are saying that they cannot abolish the notorious National Security Law, which terms us, their fellow countrymen, as enemies. They are also severely oppressing the movements of the patriotic youth, students, and people calling for reconciliation, unity, and reunification between the North and South, considering them criminal acts in violation of the National Security Law.

The South Korean authorities unreasonably presented the issues of dissolving the North side's headquarters for the Pan-National Alliance for the Country's Reunification [Pomminnyon] and canceling the 15 August pan-national rally. They also blocked the road for contacts and meetings among youth and students of the North, South, and overseas to form the second 15 August grand reunification festival of youth and students and the Pan-National Alliance of Youth and Students [Pomchonghagnyon]. In addition, on the occasion of the day commemorating the 18 May Kwangju resistance, they prevented the holding of a reunification-oriented joint event between youth and students of the North and South.

In various universities in South Korea the North Korean flag was hoisted at various reunification-related events. The South Korean authorities treated this as a problem and issued an oppressive order to severely punish those involved and to take strong measures against them. Also, it is those who are holding the reins of power in South Korea who are carrying out a frantic wholesale arrest of the core youth and students, including the chairman of the National Council of University Students [Chondaehyop], everywhere.

The South Korean authorities are ceaselessly committing military provocations and war maneuvers opposing us in the sky, land, and sea. All of this shows that in words the South Korean authorities are babbling about national harmony and reunification but in reality are running hard toward the road of betrayal, that is, North-South confrontation, war, and national division.

The South Korean authorities must immediately stop this kind of confrontation and war commotion which runs counter to the nation's reconciliation and unity and aspiration for reunification. Also, they must eliminate the hostile feelings and sense of confrontation toward us without delay.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: As we have already manifested, if the acute situation of confrontation between the North and South is not dissolved, both sides cannot remove each other's misunderstanding and mistrust, faithful dialogue cannot be held, and any problems in the fatherland's reunification cannot be solved successfully.

Eliminating the hostile feelings and sense of confrontation which remain deeply between the North and South is a desperate demand which cannot be postponed any longer for developing relations between the North and South and for achieving the fatherland's reunification.

After the adoption and effectuation of the historic North-South agreement, the desire for national reconciliation, unity, and reunification is being enhanced rapidly among the people from all social strata in the North and South. The people decided on a definite schedule for reunification, that is, to achieve reunification in the 1990's, and are resolutely launching the struggle for its realization.

A good example of this is that under the banner of national unity, people from all social strata in South Korea are promoting plans for joint festive events with the people of the northern half of the Republic and overseas countrymen, including the holding of a pan-national rally and the grand reunification festival of youth and students. They are also insisting on free visits and contacts between the North and South, and in the South Korean universities films and songs of the northern half of the Republic are being widely shown and disseminated.

Recently at reunification-related events, youth and students have been hoisting the Republic's flag. News reports say that in the future, universities will continue to extensively show films from the northern half of the Republic and popularize North Korean songs. In this connection, the South Korean authorities are wielding bayonets and regarding this as criminal, but the South Korean youth, students, and people are strongly protesting this by saying that this reflects the heated atmosphere for reunification and that this can by no means be a violation of the law.

In reality, in the hearts of the people of the North and South there is no concept of confrontation; only the atmosphere of reconciliation and unity is pulsating. This is clearly shown in their determination to all the more vigorously move toward the road of achieving great national unity and the fatherland's reunification by overcoming al kinds of barriers.

The atmosphere for national unity and the fatherland's reunification is becoming all the more heated for our people with each passing day, and this is a basic trend of the developing situation which cannot be stopped by anything. This clearly shows that the time has come for the North and South to free themselves from the old concept of the era of confrontation and to vigorously open the road for national reconciliation, unity, and reunification.

Ending the hostile feelings between the North and South and realizing reconciliation and unity are important demands to successfully advance the ongoing North-South dialogue and to accelerate the agreement's fulfillment.

The North and South produced the documents of agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchange, and on denuclearization and declared their effectuation, but no progress worth mentioning in the practical stage for their fulfillment has been achieved. As shown in the process of the subcommittee meetings and the Joint Nuclear Control Commission meetings, practical measures to fulfill the agreement, which is in conformity with the expectation and desire of the people's aspiration for national reconciliation, unity, and reunification, have not been established yet. The actual expression of this is that the adoption of the annexed agreement is being delayed.

The process of dialogue and contacts shows that while remaining unchanged, the South Korean authorities have hostile feelings toward us, the other dialogue partner, and are not showing sincerity in solving the problem.

In reality, at the dialogue table, the South Korean authorities are even committing an improper act of picking on our system. Faithful dialogue cannot be held when the South side lacks confidence in us, the other dialogue partner, and openly reveals attempts at confrontation. Also any problem related to the country's reunification cannot be solved correctly. The lesson learned from dialogue of the past clearly proves this.

North-South dialogue is necessary to solve the problem of the country's peace and reunification, which is in conformity with the nation's intention and interest. If there are to be results in dialogue and if the reunification issue is to be resolved, mistrust and hostile feelings toward the other dialogue partner and the sense of confrontation must be eliminated first of all.

Our nation is divided into the North and South against our will, but there is no reason at all to be hostile toward each other or to confront each other.

In the past, our people of the North and South were a homogeneous nation living harmoniously on the same territory with one bloodline. It is a national tragedy for this one nation of the same blood and also the same language and way of life to live temporarily divided. Then is it right to be hostile toward each other and to fight with each other?

The content of the North-South agreement, which includes North- South reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchange, was produced to put an end to the abnormal North-South relations and to restore the original appearance of our one nation by uniting together.

If the North and South reconcile and unite as the same nation, they must have more faith in the fellow countrymen than in outside forces and must take the independent position of solving the problem of the country's reunification through the nation's strength.

The division of our nation was forced upon us by outside forces. If those holding the reins of power in South Korea part with the outside forces, which are aiming for perpetual division of the country and nation and for North-South confrontation, and take the position of trying to reconcile and unite with the fellow countrymen of the North, the North and South can then solve the country's reunification problem through the nation's strength.

To achieve the nation's reconciliation and unity, all kinds of barriers designed to oppose the North must be pulled down. The National Security Law in South Korea is the main barrier in preventing reconciliation, unity, and reunification of the North and South. Since the North-South agreement has been adopted and effectuated, the South Korean people are insisting that the National Security Law, which terms the fellow countrymen as enemies, has lost its place, and they are strongly demanding its abolition. This demand of the South Korean people is just.

The South Korean authorities must look straight at the general trend of moving toward national unity and the fatherland's reunification, abolish the notorious National Security Law, and stop oppressive maneuvers against patriotic forces demanding reunification.

Currently, the whole nation of the North, South, and overseas is eagerly looking forward to the sincere fulfillment of the North- South agreement and for the day when reunification can be hastened as soon as possible.

If those holding the reins of power in South Korea pursue confrontation with us and persistently put on the brakes in fulfilling the agreement, they will face the people's resolute counterattack.

South Seeks To 'Mislead' Public on Nuclear Issue

SK3005022192 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0025 GMT 30 May 92

[NODONG SINMUN 30 May commentary: "Dastardly Maneuvers To Mislead Public Opinion"]

[Text] It is well known that our side has made every sincere effort to reach an agreement on and adopt at an early date the agreements for implementing the joint declaration and inspection regulations at the fifth meeting of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Commission [JNCC] held on 27 May. Our side tried to completely and perfectly realize the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

However, the South side came to the venue of the talks empty- handed without agreement drafts for the implementation of the joint declaration and opposed our proposal for simultaneously eliminating mutual suspicions concerning inspection site selection to verify denuclearization and full-scale inspection. Thus, the South side created obstacles concerning the discussion of problems by insisting on the principle of reciprocity, on challenge inspection and on inspection of general military bases.

The South side's claim is designed to avoid the inspection of U.S. nuclear weapons and U.S. bases in South Korea and to live under the U.S. nuclear umbrella. This reveals the South side's position to avoid implementation of the joint denuclearization declaration.

Furthermore, the South side carried out their dastardly maneuvers within and outside the room of talks in an attempt to conceal and yet at the same time legalize its unjust position and treacherous nature.

At the talks, the South side raved about the possibility of secretly bringing in nuclear weapons, treaties with third nations, nuclear reprocessing facilities and so forth, thus picking a quarrel with us. The South side even made presumptuous remarks that without resolving these problems, the improvement of North Korean-U.S. relations and North Korean-Japanese relations cannot be realized.

Outside the room of talks, the South side, through reporters, disseminated so-called materials that the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] did not know about, and thus obstructed the nuclear inspection which is being satisfactorily conducted between the IAEA and us. The South side schemed to mislead public opinion so that the people of the world might suspect that we have nuclear weapons.

Such an act by the South side is a very insidious act designed to lay obstacles between the IAEA and us and to throw a wet blanket over the nuclear inspection which is being smoothly carried out.

As the entire world knows, the DPRK repeatedly made it clear that neither do we have or produce nuclear weapons nor is there the need to produce them.

We have no intention to enter into a nuclear competition with powerful countries (?of the world). Building nuclear weapons that can annihilate our fellow countrymen and devastate our land is utterly unthinkable. Out of a desire to make rapid progress in nuclear inspection and achieve denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, the Republic's government, in accordance with the Nuclear Safeguards Accord, handed in a report on the initial stock of nuclear materials and specification of nuclear equipment to the IAEA on 4 May, far earlier than the deadline. After full consultations on working procedures, the Republic also is now undergoing nuclear inspection by IAEA experts.

Even now when our nuclear inspection issue is being resolved smoothly, the South side has expressed doubts over us and unhesitatingly provoked us. Moreover, the South has committed the weird act of doubting even the IAEA inspection. This is a defiance and defamation of this organization's authority and dignity. Under what authority is the South side finding fault with the inspection by the IAEA? Finding fault with and hindering work that is going well between us and the IAEA can only be interpreted as an act of building new obstacles to the work of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee.

Because our nuclear inspection issue is being resolved smoothly, some circles in the United States and Japan fear the truth will be completely disclosed about how their wrong actions have misled world public opinion and plotted to harm us while babbling about our nuclear weapons development. As a result, they are behaving unreasonably to create an artificial obstacle to resolving our nuclear inspection issue.

The South side talked about so-called DPRK-U.S. relations or DPRK-Japan relations. This is an act by the South side in collusion with its U.S. and Japanese masters with the insidious purpose of blocking progress in North-South dialogue, building obstacles to the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, and putting international pressure on us regarding the nuclear issue. However, this is a futile effort. The South side, though belatedly, should assume the attitude and position of resolving the denuclearization issue hand in hand with us from the stand of national independence after it discards its outdated way of life of leaving its destiny to the mercy of outside forces and living under their nuclear protection.

In the future, our side will also make every effort to sincerely implement the Nuclear Safeguards Accord and the joint denuclearization declaration according to its antinuclear policy of peace.

PRC's Ding Guangen Departs 1 Jun

SK0106103392 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 1 (KCNA)—Ding Guangen, alternate Politburo member and member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, and his entourage left for home today.

They were seen off at the airport by Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK]; Kim Yang-kon, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee; and Zheng Yi, Chinese ambassador to Korea.

South Korea

U.S. Arms Control Official Arrives for Talks

SK3105080992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0753 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 31 (OANA-YONHAP)—Ronald Lehman, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, arrived in Seoul Sunday for a seminar and to hold talks on inter-Korean nuclear inspection .

Lehman will deliver a paper, titled "U.S. View Toward Arms Control on the Korean Peninsula," at the seminar June 1-3 on disarmament in Korea and the surrounding region.

He has planned meetings with Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok, Defense Minister Choe Sae-chang, Seoul-side chairman of the Joint Nuclear Control Commission (JNCC) Kong No-myong and Vice Unification Minister Yim Tong-won.

Lehman is expected to focus on inter-Korean nuclear inspection talks, which lately have come to a standstill despite South and North Korea's understood agreement to decide on the inspection regime by end of May.

The U.S. director is expected to raise North Korea's overseas missile sales and discuss South Korea-U.S. joint measures to deter missile proliferation.

He leaves June 4.

Meets Defense Minister

SK0106075392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0730 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 1 (YONHAP)—Defense Minister Choe Sae-chang received a courtesy call from Ronald Lehman, the director of the U. S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, in which they discussed issues of common concern, on Monday, a Defense Ministry spokesman said.

The discussion focused on security developments in recent months in and around the Korean peninsula, he said.

Lehman arrived in Seoul on Sunday for a joint symposium on disarmament in Korea and the surrounding region that runs until wednesday. He leaves for home Thursday.

Reaffirms Stance on Inspections

SK0106115292 Seoul YONHAP in English 1139 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 1 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States reaffirmed Monday their positions that North Korea must accept inter-Korean nuclear inspection in addition to International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspection to dispel suspicions about its nuclear program.

Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok met Ronald Lehman, visiting director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, to exchange views on measures to get North Korea to agree to inter-Korean mutual nuclear inspection.

In the meeting, Lehman described the proposed inter-Korean inspection as an important inspection regime that can replenish the IAEA inspection, according to Foreign Ministry officials.

Lehman reportedly stressed that a faithful implementation of mutual inspections was indispensible in view that the abandonment of North Korea's nuclear reprocessing facilities could be demanded in accordance with the inter-Korean joint declaration for a non-nuclear Korean peninsula if their existence were confirmed as a result of IAEA inspections.

Lehman was quoted as saying that it was absurd for Pyongyang to reject "challenge" inspections even after it had expressed its intention to join an embryonic international convention on chemical weapons containing a provision on forced inspection.

U.S. Stance on Nuclear Issue Called 'Offensive'

SK2905123292 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 28 May 92 p 2

[Article by reporter Kim Song-yong: "U.S. Stance on 'South- North' Nuclear Negotiations"]

[Text] The United States has taken a considerably offensive stance on nuclear inspections in North Korea. The intensity of this offensiveness of the U.S. stance has reached the point where the United States is letting its qualms be known intermittently that it suspects the ROK's attitude toward the North is too conciliatory.

This stance taken by the United States reflects its resolve to eliminate the nuclear threats in Asia by completely frustrating North Korea's capability for nuclear development following the nuclear disarming of Iraq at the end of the Gulf war. In particular, the United States seems to be determined to do whatever it takes to block North Korea's possession of nuclear weapons to prevent inflaming the economic giant Japan's wild nuclear ambitions.

Accordingly, the United States has indicated what it wants the ROK to do in its nuclear control negotiations with North Korea: First, when the South and North conduct mutual nuclear inspections, they must apply the principle of reciprocity to include the North's military facilities in the list of targets for inspection; and, second, the South must adhere to the idea of stipulating mandatory inspection in North Korea expressly in the text of an inspection regime.

In the case of applying the principle of reciprocity, the United States means that inspection of military facilities on one side must be reciprocated by such inspection on the other side, that the same applies to the inspection of civilian facilities, and that the number of facilities should be precisely the same.

The United States particularly stresses applying the principle of reciprocity because North Korea insists on applying what is known as the principle of simultaneous elimination of mutual misgivings at nuclear control meetings. North Korea insists that "the nuclear inspection in South Korea must cover all the U.S. military bases in the South in exchange for an inspection of the nuclear facilities in Yongbyon." North Korea's insistence as such is seen as an expression of its misgivings about the U.S. statement that its weapons have been completely withdrawn from South Korea, as well as its worry that when the military facilities in North Korea are open to inspection, its military strength inevitably will be disclosed.

Through the mouth of Arnold Kanter, U.S. under secretary of state for political affairs, who came to Korea in mid-May, the United States said that an inspection of facilities in Yongbyon alone is not enough to completely dissipate misgivings about North Korean nuclear development and made its policy clear that the United States would close its military bases to inspection if North Korea tries to exclude the military bases from the list of targets for inspection.

Another condition that the United States wants the ROK to meet in its negotiations with North Korea is that challenge inspection of nuclear facilities in North Korea should be conducted on a regular basis. Unlike regular inspections, challenge inspection is one that could be conducted without prior arrangement at sites suspected of being used for nuclear development. Our side had earlier proposed to the North 16 regular inspections and 40 challenge inspections annually.

Of course, North Korea rejected this proposal, citing Paragraph 4 of the joint declaration on denuclearization as the reason. This paragraph stipulates that "on the condition that it is proposed by one side and agreed upon between the two sides." Thus, it is practically impossible to conduct challenge inspections without consent from the North.

This notwithstanding, the United States has clearly expressed its unyielding stance that it would give up mutual nuclear inspection in the South and North should challenge inspections be impossible. This is because with routine inspections in North Korea by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], it would be impossible to block North Korea's nuclear development, as has been clearly evidenced by the IAEA's nuclear inspection of Iraq.

It is needless to say that the United States is showing interest in the results of the IAEA inspection of North Korea's nuclear facilities that began on 25 May. Its main concern is about the inspection results of the so-called radiochemical experimental chamber's reprocessing capability, the size of the facilities, and the quantity of plutonium that has been extracted so far, as well as about its storage. It is also true that the United States hopes to have an outline of North Korea's nuclear development as a result of the IAEA's on-site inspection.

Of course, the United States is not expecting the IAEA's inspection of the nuclear facilities in North Korea to provide a complete picture of North Korea's nuclear development plan, because the inspection covers only the facilities reported by the host country.

What especially concerns the United States is the possibility that North Korea may have hidden nuclear reprocessing equipment and a large quantity of plutonium in secret places, such as in military bases and underground tunnels.

James Lilley, U.S. assistant secretary of state, recently expressed such concern by saying that "North Korea is capable of storing plutonium and nuclear weapons systems in about 11,000 underground tunnels." Steven Solarz, chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, also expressed similar concern. He said: If North Korea shows no sincerity on nuclear inspection, international sanctions such as an economic embargo should be imposed on it.

One important move in this regard is that some see cooperation among the Korean peninsula's neighboring countries as indispensable for complete inspection of North Korea's nuclear facilities. Voices are heard once again in the U.S. Administration and Congress calling for a multinational security cooperation system to be built to help South-North nuclear negotiations. According to this school of thought, not only the three countries having stakes in North Korea—South Korea, the United States, and Japan—but also major powers surrounding the Korean peninsula, such as the CIS and China, should join forces to resolve North Korea's nuclear issue.

Presently, this call has not been translated into action. However, Japan and Russia are in full accord with the United States that they should join forces to rid North Korea of its nuclear weapons. Japan has stubbornly insisted that "unless North Korea rids itself of the nuclear facilities, North Korea can never hope for any progress in the establishment of diplomatic relations with Japan or economic aid from it."

Through the mouth of its Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, Russia also said on 1 April: It is not in Russia's interests in the far eastern region to rule out the possibility of North Korea producing nuclear weapons. Thus, Russia made its intention clear that it would stop North Korea from developing nuclear weapons.

This notwithstanding, North Korea is engrossed in stalling for time, refusing to make any concessions to its neighboring countries, such as the United States, at the 27 May South-North nuclear control committee talks. If North Korea continues to be uncooperative about nuclear inspection even after the IAEA completes its inspection, it certainly will come under increasing pressure from the international community to fulfill its duty spelled out in the nuclear safeguards accord. The strongest test yet will be at the regular meeting of the IAEA Board of Governors scheduled for 15 June.

Rally Opposes U.S. Military Base in Pyongtaek

SK3005041992 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 30 May 92 p 13

[Text] Suwon—At around 1430 on 29 May, about 1,000 people held a "rally of Pyongtaek residents and students to oppose relocation of the U.S. military base to Pyongtaek" in front of the Pyongtaek Railway Station in Pyongtaek-tong, Pyongtaek City.

Students from Choson University and eight universities belonging to the Suwon District Council of University Student Representatives, including Chungang University's Ansong campus, Seoul Agricultural College and Aju University, participated in the rally.

Premier Warns North on Accepting Inspections

SK0106050892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0450 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 1 (YONHAP)—Prime Minister Chong Won-sik called on North Korea Monday to accept mutual inspection of nuclear capabilities, warning that any further delay would hinder substantial progress in overall relations between the two sides.

In a telephone message to his North Korean counterpart Yon Hyong- muk, Chong said concern about the nuclear problem had not eased though three months had passed since the effectuation of an inter- Korean agreement on a nuclear-free Korean peninsula.

"I feel great regret that the Joint Nuclear Control Commission violated the expectations of the 70 million people by breaking the time-honored tradition that all inter-Korean agreements be fulfilled.

"North Korea should recognize the fact that substantial progress is hard to expect in overall inter-Korean relations as long as mutual inspection is not carried out," he said.

He emphasized that mutual inspection was needed on top of international inspection to dispel suspicions about North Korea's nuclear capability.

Earlier Monday, Chong presided over an interministerial meeting on the stalled nuclear negotiations with North Korea. The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Unification Minister Choe Ho-chung, Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok, Defense Minister Choe Sae-chang, and Kim Chong-in, senior presidential secretary for diplomacy and security.

The participants reaffirmed South Korea's position that mutual inspection was crucial and that efforts should be made for early mutual inspection upon the completion of the on-going inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The government was positively considering limiting the extent of the mutual inspection to private nuclear facilities and a limited number of military facilities in North Korea, as its earlier proposal to inspect 40 military facilities in North Korea was deemed too much by the other side, officials said.

If North Korea continued to reject South Korea's call for mutual inspection, the government would wage a publicity war against the North in international forums, the officials said.

They said the government would ask Japan make mutual inspection another pre-condition for normalization in its talks with North Korea.

If North Korea did not show any sign of complying with the call for mutual inspection, South Korea would continue to reserve permission for the Daewoo Group's joint venture with North Korea and other economic cooperation projects, the officials said.

They said that the government would, however, actively promote humanitarian exchanges such as visits by members of separated families in South and North Korea.

North Denies Ability To Mass Produce Plutonium

SK3105035192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0250 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Washington, May 30 (OANA-YONHAP)—North Korea's nuclear recycling experiments are only half complete and cannot mass produce plutonium, Kim Pyong-hong, vice director of the North Korean Research Institute of Disarmament and Peace, said Saturday.

Pyongyang will keep building nuclear power plants for electricity supply, and recycling capability to produce maximum electricity from small amount of nuclear fuel is at an experimental stage, Kim said.

The vice director made the remarks at a press conference following a seminar here co-sponsored by George Washington University and Japan's YOMIURI SHIMBUN.

On ongoing talks for inter-Korean nuclear inspection, Kim said the talks will not progress because South Korea insists on seeing North Korean military facilities.

He repeated North Korea's refusal to accept South Korea's challenge inspection on its nuclear facilities, saying his country is not capable of producing nuclear weapons.

"We plan to build many nuclear power plants of 200 mw to 300 mw scale" Kim told the press conference.

He denied allegations that North Korea can produce mass amount of plutonium, core ingredient of an atomic bomb, saying the reprocessing experiments are only half complete.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director-General Hans Blix said after his North Korean visit earlier this month that he saw facilities in Yongbyon which, when completed and put into operation, would be nuclear reprocessing installations.

North Korean officials admitted to having successfully extracted plutonium for experimental purposes. South Korean and Western officials believe North Korea can immediately develop these pilot experiments to produce enough plutonium to make atomic bombs.

Kim, insisting that the reprocessing capabilities are only in experimental stage, said North Korea can prove it through the IAEA inspection under way from May 25.

"South Korea demands to see our military installations for nuclear inspection, something that should be discussed by the inter- Korean joint military commission. Instead, it is raising the issue at the Joint Nuclear Control Commission," said Kim.

There is no need for challenge inspection, an inspection regime demanded by South Korea, since North Korea is not capable of making atomic weapons, he said.

South, North Hold Exchanges Subcommittee Meeting

SK3005102192 Seoul YONHAP in English 1007 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 30 (YONHAP)—South and North Korea made little headway at the fourth meeting Saturday at Panmunjom of the Exchanges-Cooperation Subcommittee of the inter-Korean high-level talks.

The two sides focused their discussion on the adoption of an auxiliary accord to the basic South-North agreement and the exchange visits of dispersed families, but failed to narrow differences over key pending issues.

They came up with some modification to their drafts of the accord, but they were yet far apart on whether to limit the exchange and cooperation activities to the people authorized by the "authorities" of the two sides.

South Korea proposed that the exchange-cooperation programs be made on the basis of approval of the authorities of either side while North Korea insisted on abolishing government control over them.

North Korea also demanded an immediate abolition of legal and institutional barriers that it said are feared to hamper free exchanges of people, such as the National Security Law in South Korea.

However, the two parties agreed to permitting even individuals, let alone judicial persons and companies, to join in inter-Korean economic exchange and cooperation projects and having the Joint Exchanges-Cooperation Commission discuss the issue of opening an economic counseling office and a reference room to facilitate exchanges of economic data.

The subcommittee also decided to leave the Red Cross Societies of the two sides to decide details of the family reunion project scheduled around Aug. 15. A working-level talk of the Red Cross Societies is slated for early June.

The southern side also demanded that the two sides prepare and exchange a list of 200 people wishing to visit the other side in order to increasing chances of helping as many as dispersed families as possible get to know the fate of their missing kins or relatives.

The number of home visitors of each side is set at 100.

The two sides agreed to hold the fifth meeting on June 29.

Trade Protection To Be Chief Aim at UN Meeting

SK2705014192 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 May 92 p 9

[Text] Korea's chief aim at next month's U.N. Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) will be blocking attempts to use environmental protection as an excuse to restrict trade, Economic Planning Board (EPB) officials said yesterday.

Systematic transfer of environmental technology is necessary to abide by UNCED guidelines, the EPB officials said.

The ideas are part of the EPB report on Korea's position on key issues at the conference in Rio de Janeiro. Prime Minister Chong Won-sik leads the Korean delegation to the earth summit.

Strengthening of global environmental standards are highly likely to close markets to non-complying nations, which might unjustly raise trade barriers, the officials said.

Korea's main diplomatic effort at the U.N. conference would be to block such moves, they said.

Seoul's position is that developing countries need the funds and technology to comply with global standards set by advanced nations, and technology transfer must necessarily precede a raising of the standards, the EPB officials said.

Korea, straddling the line between advanced and developing country, is considering buying technologies from developed nations on an industrial basis and transferring them to developing nations on non-industrial basis as it would be cheaper, according to the officials.

The government is against uniform contributions to environmental protection funds, the officials said.

At home, the government will accent environmental investment during the 2000s, expediting development of substitutes for controlled substances and remapping the industry for energy efficiency and conservation.

Government Approves Rio Earth Summit Declaration

SK2805053292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0443 GMT 28 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 28 (YONHAP)—The government, in a cabinet session chaired by Prime Minister Chong Won-sik, approved Thursday the signing of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and Agenda 21.

The declaration is a political manifesto calling for a balance between environmental protection and development to be adopted at the Earth Summit June 13-14 in Rio de Janeiro.

Agenda 21 will contain detailed measures to translate the manifesto into action.

Chong will be among the heads of state or government leaders from some 70 countries to attend the environment summit.

New National Assembly Term Begins 30 May

SK3005035992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0147 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 30 (YONHAP)—The 14th National Assembly, entrusted with important tasks of further democratizing the nation and preparing for unification, began its four-year term Saturday.

Prospects for the first session were bleak as the ruling and opposition parties remained far apart on major issues, including the assignment of the chairmanships of the 17 Assembly committees and the opposition's demand that local elections be held within this year.

Negotiations for the actual opening of the Assembly will start from early next week, but rough sailing is expected from the outset because of an indication that the main opposition Democratic Party [DP] and the Unification National Party [UNP] will align themselves against the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] on many issues.

The DLP plans to send its newly appointed top four party officials to pay courtesy calls on Kim Tae-chung, president of the DP, and Chong Chu-yong, president of the UNP, early next week. The four DLP officials are Secretary General Kim Yong-ku, floor leader Kim Yong-tae, Kim Yong-chae, first state minister for political affairs, and Hwang In-song, chief policy-maker.

Starting with the courtesy calls, the DLP plans to begin its negotiations on various levels for the opening of the National Assembly with the opposition parties, DLP sources said.

DLP Secretary General Kim said Friday that when he calls on Kim Tae-chung and Chong Chu-yong, he intends to convey ruling party presidential candidate Kim Yong-sam's appeal to stop campaigning for the presidential election, which is more than 200 days away.

In order to cool down the already overheated campaign mood, Kim said, he will urge the opposition leaders to get together with Kim Yong-sam to discuss ways to help resolve economic and other pending issues for the welfare of the people.

Kim Yong-sam has already called on the opposition leaders to hold such a meeting.

As soon as the DP's reshuffle for party posts is completed, the ruling party plans to propose a series of conferences with opposition parties to iron out differences on the local elections, DLP sources said.

Opposition leaders, especially Kim Tae-chung, are insisting the local elections held with the president election, whereas the ruling party, citing the economic burden, maintains that they be held after 1995.

In any case, the DLP believes that the most urgent issue is to open the 14th National Assembly by speeding up the appointment of the chairmen of the Assembly committees. Questions related to the local elections could be negotiated afterwards, DLP officials say.

But the opposition leaders said they would not agree to a meeting either with Kim Yong-sam or President No Tae-u unless the ruling party retract its decision to postpone the local elections and agreed hold them within this year.

50,000 Gather for Student Group's Birthday Rally

SK3105102592 Seoul YONHAP in English 1003 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 31 (YONHAP)—Tens of thousand collegians took to the streets Sunday when police blocked their march rally to commemorate the sixth birthday of Chondaehyop, the National Alliance of Student Representatives.

Riot police completely surrounded the Hanyang University in Seoul where an estimated 50,000 students from across the country gathered from Saturday for the anniversary celebration.

Full-clad riot troopers blocked ralliers as they tried to march out of the Hanyang campus, and the students leaked out in small groups to gather again in downtown.

Thousands of students occupied downtown streets by late afternoon, sitting arm in arm across eight-lane road and stretching out over 400 meters in some areas.

"Abolish National Security Law," "We want a democratic government," the students shouted.

Police advanced on the students with volleys of tear gas, and clashes broke out sporadically as ralliers fought back with steel pipes.

In an all-night celebration Saturday night, Chondaehyop issued a statement setting two major goals—establishment of a democratic coalition by people from all walks of life and a bigger national student alliance stronger than Chondaehyop.

The Chondaehyop leadership pledged to continue its struggle for U.S. troop withdrawal from South Korea, national reunification under a confederate system, declaration of Korean peninsula as a nuclear- free zone, and abolishment of the National Security Law.

Brunei, Malaysia, & Singapore

Malaysia

Ghafar Urges U.S. Noninterference With EAEC

BK2905115492 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0735 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, May 29 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba Friday urged the United States to allow East Asian Countries to determine the fate of the proposed East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC) without having its influence bearing on them.

The U.S. should not use its influence to hinder the establishment of the EAEC because the countries eligible to participate in the caucus were sovereign nations having the right to make their own decisions, he said.

"It is alright if the countries fail to set up the caucus but what we do not want is the use of influence to hinder its establishment," he said.

Ghafar was responding to questions on a news report Friday quoting U.S. ambassador to Malaysia, Paul Cleveland, as saying that the EAEC would fail without the participation of the United States because it was necessary for the region to have trade relations with the superpower.

Ghafar said the EAEC was being established for countries in the region to exchange views and did not constitute a trade bloc.

The United States might have misunderstood that the EAEC was going to boycott it, Ghafar said, adding that there was no such intention.

He said the EAEC was a loose confederation whereby countries could join or opt out at anytime, and that the United States itself was a member of a more cohesive grouping, apparently referring to the North American Free Trade Area (NAFTA).

Ghafar said the anxiety of the United States over the setting up of the EAEC was baseless because he did not think that any country would want to confront it, and even if any member of the EAEC wanted to go against the United States the others would not follow suit.

He also said that there was good cooperation between Malaysia and the United States at the moment, and that Malaysia wanted to maintain it.

Tokyo Extends 62.9 Billion Yen in Loans

OW2805135192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1221 GMT 28 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 28 (KYODO)—Japan will extend 62.9 billion yen in official development assistance [ODA] loans to Malaysia, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

Officials said representatives of the two countries exchanged diplomatic papers relating to the loan package earlier in the day in Kuala Lumpur.

The untied loans will carry an annual interest rate of 3 percent and will be repayable over a period of 25 years, including a seven-year grace period.

The loans will go in part toward funding a project to support Malaysian students' attending Japanese universities, a project to rehabilitate a hydropower project in northern Borneo, and a project to promote small and medium-scale industries.

They will also finance a project to build two 500-megawatt generators for a power station some 40 kilometers outside Kuala Lumpur and a program for eradication of poverty in rural Malaysia.

Japan is Malaysia's largest aid donor, having extended it some 531 billion yen in loans since 1966. The present loan package is the 14th since then.

In Kuala Lumpur, Malaysian Finance Ministry Secretary General Mohamed Sharif Kassim exchanged notes on the ODA with Naoto Amaki, the Japanese embassy's charge d'affaires, on behalf of the respective governments.

Chikao Tsukuda, deputy chairman of Japan's Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), signed loan agreements with seven local agencies that will manage the projects, which are the first to include funding of studies of Japan.

The other projects are to sponsor engineering and science studies, expand two power stations, eradicate poverty in rural areas, and fund small- and medium-scale businesses.

With the new loan, the OECF has given 479 billion yen to Malaysia since 1966, making Malaysia seventh-ranked among 72 developing nations that receive such aid.

The OECF's balance of its loan disbursement as of March is about 6.9 trillion yen, and about 927 billion yen was given out in fiscal 1991, Tsukuda said.

Japan, through the OECF, is doing its best to meet increasing demand for yen loans from many countries, he said.

Yen loans account for about one-third of Malaysia's official borrowings, or about 15.1 billion ringgit out of a total 42.0 billion ringgit, said Mohamed Sharif.

Singapore

Urgent Need To Resolve Island Dispute Noted

BK3005120392 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 29 May 92 p 34

[Editorial: "Pedra Branca Cannot Wait"]

[Text] The waters around Pedra Branca remain uncomfortably choppy, just when glimmers of light appeared to be shining through the haze that has shrouded the island in controversy for the past 12 years. Earlier this month, Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed said that if legal evidence showed that the island belonged to Singapore, Malaysia would have nothing more to say on the issue. Lamentably, some members of the opposition in Malaysia have decided to undermine the statesman-like position of their prime minister. The Parti Islam (PAS) [All Malaysia Islamic Party] has extracted much political mileage from its plans to land on the tiny rocky outcrop, which Malaysia calls Pulau Batu Putih. Thankfully, its attempts to do so last week were thwarted when Malaysian boatmen declined to take about 70 PAS members to the island. The men from PAS, however, have vowed that they will try again.

It should be clear that no good could possibly come from such a stunt. The two states have said since 1981 that they intend to resolve the issue through a formal exchange of documents to back their respective claims to the island, on which Horsburgh lighthouse stands. The Singapore authorities have pressed their Malaysian counterparts repeatedly for a speedy exchange, and even suggested that the matter could go to the International Court of Justice if it could not be resolved bilaterally. Unfortunately, no exchange has yet taken place. The important point, however, is that the two sides are discussing the issue in civil tones behind closed doors. But instead of allowing negotiations to proceed peacebly, PAS seems determined to up the ante and cloud the issue further. Rightly, the Singapore authorities have given a clear warning that the police will arrest and prosecute anyone who lands illegally on the island, which was named a Protected Place last November. If in spite of this, PAS proceeds to the island, the retribution that it faces will have been brought on by itself. To be sure, this could win it many political points at home. But it would do little to help resolve the dispute. That would be regrettable, indeed.

Equally unfortunate, however, was the suggestion in Singapore by PKMS [Singapore Malays National Organization] President Sahid Sahooman that the island should be jointly administered by the two countries to ensure peace and harmony in Asean. This is no solution. Singapore owns and has administered Pedra Branca for more than 150 years and the governent has said that it has documents to back its assertion that the island belongs to the Republic. Any suggestion that the island should now be jointly administered should thus be roundly rejected. Not only because this could be tantamount to giving up some of the nation's territory for foreign management, but also as such a notion would call into question the very principle on which Singapore's right to the island is based, that is, that it has owned it all along.

In this regard, the reactions of several Malay organisations to the ensuing dispute have been heartening. Earlier in the week, Mr Yatiman Yusof, parliamentary secretary for foreign affairs, suggested that he was confident that the Malay-Muslim community here would support the government's position that the dispute should be settled in accordance with international law. Perhaps in response to this, several Malay groups came forward not only to back this view but also to reject any suggestion of joint administration. This should make it clear that Singaporeans are united behind the fundamental principle that the dispute centres on questions of international law which are best resolved by friendly discussion. Clearly, while Pedra Branca is a small island, the issue is not an insignificant one and could threaten bilateral relations if exploited by irresponsible elements. All the more reason, then, why a speedy exchange of documents is now needed. The dispute should be resolved quickly before unreason is allowed to cloud the light.

Cambodia

Sihanouk Reaffirms Lack of State Power

BK3105050992 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 30 May 92

[Message from His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk to his children and compatriots; dated 30 May—read by announcer]

[Text] Esteemed and beloved children and compatriots: During the past several weeks, I received many complaints from my children and compatriots, complaining about Party A and expressing their grudges against Party A or B or C and so forth.

I really want to help resolve the problems for all those children and compatriots by contacting and seeking facts from those accused political parties. However, those political parties told me that the accusations against them are groundless while some other political parties refused to send their representatives to my people's audience to discuss the matters in my presence.

In such a case, I, Samdech Euv [Prince Father], am powerless and would like to ask my beloved children and compatriots to please send your complaints to His Excellency Yasushi Akashi who is the special representative of the UN secretary general and to the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia or UNTAC which have the legitimate power to control Cambodia from now until May 1993 so that they can examine your complaints and help resolving your problems.

The Supreme National Council [SNC] which I head does not have any power. Although the SNC is the symbol of Cambodia's sovereignty, this organization is not a government nor an organization to run the state. I and the SNC have no state power nor administrative, judicial, or military power.

During the 1950's and 1960's, your prince father obtained state power from universal elections which authorized me to hold legitimate power. However, in the 1990's, your prince father is only the father of the nation and does not have any power. For this reason, I would like to call on all my beloved children to please understand this and forgive me.

Please, all beloved children and compatriots, accept my deepest, eternal affections.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 30 May 1992
[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk

General Interviewed on Phase Two Implementation

BK0106080992 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 31 May 92

[Interview with Brigadier General Neang Phat, Defense Ministry spokesman, by (Yugati Noe), correspondent of the Japanese Communist Party journal AKAHATA, at the Armed Forces Foreign Relations Department Office on 26 May on the implementation of Phase Two of the peace accord]

[Text] Brigadier General [Brig. Gen.] Neang Phat revealed that following the announcement of the military commander of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] the Defense Ministry of the State of Cambodia [SOC] made a statement on radio and television and in the press calling on officers and the rank and file to regroup in designated areas; compile lists of troops, arms, and other equipment to be handed over to UNTAC; and coordinate these activities in all categories of the Armed Forces: the Army, Navy, and Air Force included.

Concerning the 70 percent reduction in forces, Brig. Gen. Neang Phat said that the SOC Council of Ministers has a specific policy ready for the demobilized soldiers, such as giving them six-month allotments, conferring on them victory medals commensurate with their service, supplying them with acceptable living conditions to survive in their chosen localities, providing them with other moral and material support, and allowing them the right to take part in the mainstream of the national community. In particular, any one of them who has special skills may continue his service and the SOC Government will create conditions for further raising the level of those skills.

On the mine clearing issue, Brig. Gen. Neang Phat added that the SOC faction has strictly implemented all UNTAC stipulations and made a contingent of forces available to cooperate with UNTAC.

Defense Minister Speaks on Phase Two of Accord

BK3005132192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 30 May 92

["Statement of the defense minister of the State of Cambodia [Tie Banh] to officers and soldiers of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces prior to the start of the second phase of the cease-fire accord"; date not given]

[Text] Beloved officers and soldiers of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF]:

This is a special statement that I would like to make to all of you.

On 23 October 1991 in Paris, leaders of all warring Cambodian factions met with representatives of other countries in order to seek a way to achieve a long-lasting peace for our country.

At that time, they agreed that a cease-fire must be implemented effectively. That was a big step toward peace called the first phase of the cease-fire accord. These leaders and all those representatives agreed that the United Nations must play a role as the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, or UNTAC, so as to implement full measures to end the war.

UNTAC is composed of many military and civilian personnel from various countries across the world. It has a working plan that was agreed upon by all factions.

[words indistinct] we worked jointly with UNAMIC [UN Advance Mission in Cambodia] and later on with the UNTAC since the signing of the Paris agreement. This is a good chance for us to speed up the peace process in Cambodia.

During the past weeks, UNTAC has held meetings with the military and civilian leaders of all factions and reached an agreement that the second phase of the cease-fire should begin at 0800 on the morning of 13 June.

During these meetings UNTAC was assured by all factions that it would end all fighting and not renew it, particularly in Kompong Thom and some other provinces, and that a joint effort would be made in demining work in order to open Route 12 where fighting took place recently. The UNTAC would be given the full right and freedom to carry out its activities and work as defined in the agreement, as well as access to all areas throughout Cambodia without restrictions. All mine fields which have not yet been marked will be marked to help avoid endangering the Cambodian people. A (?list) of the number of troops, equipment, and arms of all factions must be given to UNTAC so it can end the fighting through the gathering of all factions' troops in garrisons, where they will be disarmed through peaceful means and without any threats.

Various aspects of the Paris peace plan are tied to implementation of Phase Two of the accord. In particular, the army of each faction will move to verification points and regroupment centers since the beginning of Phase Two should not involve any harassment. The factions should provide their troops with information on dates, duration, positions, and the plan of verification and regroupment as I already mentioned to you in order to show our CPAF's goodwill in advocating the peace process. [sentence as heard] The assurances are a major step toward the peace process, allowing UNTAC to promote the Paris accord's full implementation.

The steps to which we should adhere as of 13 June are called the second phase of the cease-fire. So what is the significance of the second phase: Phase two is a signal for the start of the process of verifying and regrouping troops during which all the parties' armies should be disarmed in a peaceful manner. This will lead to demobilizing the factional armies by 70 percent—that is, in a group of 10 soldiers, seven of them will be allowed to return to their homes as civilians.

Therefore, what will happen on 13 June? On the schedule, the factional armies are required by the Paris accord to move to UNTAC-arranged verification points. The compatriots who are army officers and the rank and file of the CPAF and all the troops of the other parties are required to report to UNTAC at each verification point. All the compatriots should carry out this task within two weeks after the beginning of Phase Two—that is, before the end of June. All of you who will travel from the verification points to the regroupment centers will be escorted by UNTAC forces. At the regroupment centers, commanders will ask you to lay down your arms under the verification of the UNTAC.

The date of 13 June is an important day because all the parties agree to allow their respective armies to move at 0800, without any trouble, to the verification points and regroupment centers. As such, I wish to call on all of you to strictly abide by this ordinance. You should provide protection to the armies of the other parties, and you yourselves will also be protected by the other parties. Through respect for this ordinance, UNTAC will be able to create mutual trust, thereby bringing peace to our motherland.

I wish to tell you something about the disarming process: I understand that the majority of the compatriots have endured hardship for a long time for the cause of the rebirth of our beloved motherland and people. So handing over guns that you have carried with courage is an unfamiliar and difficult task. However, I want you to understand that the surrendering of your guns to UNTAC is, however, a gesture of courage. You will be disarmed with dignity. The UNTAC has already clearly realized this problem and this is an action that you shoud be proud of. All the parties agree with UNTAC that we all will strive to make verification and regrouping of troops successful within the period of four weeks starting from the beginning of the second phase—that is, in mid-July.

After seeing that the armies of all the parties have already been regrouped, UNTAC will inform the parties of the decision to allow the beginning of the process, demobilizing seven soldiers from a group of 10 made up of officers and rank and file of the CPAF. Those demobilized soldiers will be allowed to return home as civilians. As for officers and soldiers of the other parties, they will undergo the same process. So through this process, our Cambodia will become more secure and safer than ever. The work will be carried out in one month. And at that time, you will be provided with assistance in your return to your home, wherever it is.

The officers and rank and file to be demobilized via this procedure will be considered to have abided by orders and fulfilled their duties for the motherland with dignity. They will win the most appropriate respect and compliments. The UNTAC has prepared certificates of demobilization for those officers and soldiers who will be relieved from their assignments. The certificate states that the soldier has been demobilized with dignity and is qualified to participate in various special rehabilitation programs that will help him return to civilian life. And the certificate of training will only be conferred on officers and soldiers who are demobilized by UNTAC.

In addition, the party and government of our State of Cambodia (SOC) have also paid attention to formulating a policy to provide some benefits to the compatriots who will return to civilian life, such as asking the state authorities at all localities to create moral and material conditions for ensuring their livelihoods according to the concrete situation in each area. The officers and soldiers who have returned to civilian life will be provided assistance worth six months of their salaries by the state as well as other benefits by the government and state authorities. Along with this, the party and state will confer medals on you in accordance with your past performance and achievements.

Moreover, I also wish to say something about the officers of the United Nations—that is, the UNTAC officers. The UN forces have been mustered from a great many countries throughout the world. Some of them are ready to begin their journeys to Cambodia in the next two weeks to join the existing UN forces here. If you have never met them before, you will eventually have contact with them at various verification points when they escort you to the regroupment centers. You can identify them by their blue berets and blue flags and they will drive white vehicles in the regroupment centers.

The UNTAC forces will not intervene in the Cambodian conflict. They come to our Cambodia only to monitor implementation of the cease-fire and to establish mutual trust among all the parties. Their objective is to ensure peace for our motherland. The UNTAC troops are the symbol of peace; they will bring about nonhostility for all of you and act with respect toward you. They pledge that you will be looked after while you are under their charge.

Through the measures to build mutual trust, the UNTAC forces will ensure that we will be able to rebuild a Cambodia with security and safety, thereby allowing refugees and displaced persons to return; release war prisoners and all civilians who have been detained for political reasons; ensure the respect and protection of your rights and freedom and those of the entire people in anticipation of a future of happiness, security, and safety; hold elections next year in which the Cambodian people can choose a government they desire; and allow a new Cambodia to start its reconstruction and elimination of the adverse consequences of war.

With all of us joining the UNTAC, I firmly believe that we can assist it in pursuing its task for the sake of our motherland and people. I wish to appeal to every officer and soldier to cooperate with UNTAC and help the UN forces; they all are our friends.

In conclusion, on behalf of the government and the Defense Ministry and in my own name, I would like to deeply thank the Cambodian People's Party and state authorities at all levels of the SOC and the Cambodian people across the country for their attention to assisting, supporting, and sustaining the CPAF, enabling it to develop and succeed.

I wish to profoundly thank fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, and all outstanding families that have the courage to give up their beloved children, siblings, and husbands to serve the CPAF. This constitutes an active contribution to the cause of struggle for national liberation, salvation, defense, and reconstruction, thereby allowing our motherland to step forward toward peace and national reunification without any further sufferings and bringing about harmony for the people.

I wish to extol and express my belief in all the officers and soldiers who have shown their efforts and made all kinds of sacrifices for the cause of the Cambodian nation and motherland.

I would like to join in expressing condolences to the souls of the fallen combatants as well as respect and love for the injured combatants for their bravery and courage in the struggle for the supreme interest of the nation.

May the CPP, government, state authorities at all levels, cadres, combatants, and people throughout the country have good health, long life, and happiness at all times. Thank you.

Khmer Rouge Said Obstructing Accord's Phase Two

BK2905142192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Three days after its 18th meeting, the Mixed Military Working Group [MMWG] held its 19th meeting at the headquarters of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] in the afternoon of 26 May under the chairmanship of Lieutenant General John Sanderson, UNTAC military commander, and his deputy commander Michel Loridon. The meeting concentrated its discussions mainly on the outcome and points raised during the previous meeting and set forth a number of programs and conditions in a bid to effectively implement the second phase of the cease-fire, which consists of troop regrouping and reduction. Speaking on that occasion, Lt. Gen. John Sanderson informed the participants of the deliberations of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia during its 26 May meeting, which also discussed the second phase of the cease-fire, the electoral law, and the UN civil administration to control Cambodia during the transition period. The general also recalled the 12 steps raised during the previous meeting, including the permission for the UN inspectors' free movement in and access to the zones controlled by each faction and an end to violations in Kompong Thom, Kompong Cham, and other regions.

It should be noted that during the 19th meeting of the MMWG, as in the 18th and earlier meetings, the Khmer Rouge representatives continued to put forward the question of the presence of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia under various ridiculous forms that they had falsely contrived. Moreover, the Khmer Rouge faction obstinately argued with the meeting's chairman, although Gen. John Sanderson had tried by all means to present the meeting with facts and reasons concerning the true situation in Cambodia, especially the specific conditions clearly provided for in the Paris accord.

Lt. Gen. Phuong Siphan, representative of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces, promised to hand over all the required lists and to always be prepared to effectively implement the second phase of the cease-fire. He also stressed that in the 19th meeting, only the Khmer Rouge faction remained stubborn and insisted on only raising the same old issues, causing complications and blocking the implementation of Phase Two of the cease-fire, thereby obstructing the process of the Cambodian peace accord.

Loridon Not 'Very Optimistic'

BK3005142692 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1100 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 30—The attitude of the Khmer Rouge has called into question execution of the second phase of the Cambodian peace plan, AFP [Agence France-Press] quoted a leader of the United Nations peacekeeping force there as saying Wednesday [27 May].

The Marxist guerrillas "are doing everything to put us in the worst condition for phase two of the peace plan," said General Michel Loridon, second in command of the UN transitional authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) troops.

Phase two of the peace agreement, signed in Paris last year by all four warring factions, envisages the demobilisation and disarmament their estimated 200,000 troops pending general elections in April or May 1993.

This phase of the peace process can go ahead only "if all the factions play the game," Loridon said.

"I haven't been very optimistic for the last fortnight since the Khmer Rouge are creating serious problems by refusing our requests," the French general said.

The Khmer Rouge, military mainstay of the guerrilla resistance during 13 years of civil war, have refused to allow UN peacekeeping troops to move freely in zones under their control in the north and west of Cambodia.

Moreover, they have yet to hand over specific information on their troops, arms, and extensive minefields.

They are demanding that the United Nations verify the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia as a precondition to their cooperating with the UN peace plan.

Hanoi officially withdrew the last of its forces from Cambodia in September 1989.

On Tuesday, UNTAC Head Yasushi Akashi accused the Khmer Rouge during a meeting of the Supreme National Council (SNC) of undermining the peace process and warned them that they must change their attitude.

The SNC comprises representatives of all four factions: the Phnom Penh government, the Khmer Rouge, and followers of Prince Norodom Sihanouk and former Prime Minister Son Sann.

Akashi told reporters he had called on all four factions, "especially... the Khmer Rouge," to meet condition necessary to execute the second phase of the peace plan.

He gave the Khmer Rouge until the beginning of next week to indicate what measures they had taken to satisfy conditions of Phase Two of the peace process and "warned (them) strongly against failure to comply."

"I am ready to exercise my right" to take necessary steps to promote the peace process should its obstruction continue, Akashi said.

At the start of the SNC meeting, Prince Norodom Sihanouk—noting his inability to resolve differences among council members—appealed to Akashi to exercise that right.

The UNTAC mandate empowers the UN envoy to take such decisions in case of deadlock among the factions, but Akashi added that he would prefer to see the factions work out an agreement among themselves.

UNTAC's military commander, Australian Brigadier General John Sanderson, said 4,500 peacekeeping troops were already in Cambodia and their number would inrease to 12,000 before the second phase of the peace accord took effect.

The agreement initially envisaged the deployment of 15,900 UN troops in Cambodia.

FUNCINPEC Pledges To Further Apply Accord

BK3105092392 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Yasushi Akashi, special envoy of the UN secretary general and head of the UN transitional authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], in company with General John Sanderson, commander of the UN peacekeeping forces in Cambodia, visited areas under the control of the party of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC], in Oddar Meanchey Province on the morning of 30 May. H.E. Akashi and the UNTAC delegation were welcomed by two-star Major General Tea Chamrat, special representative of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the FUNCINPEC president; General Toan Chay, chief of the General Staff of the National Army of Independent Cambodia [NAIC]; H.E. Yu Hokkri, chef de cabinet of the FUNCINPEC, and other high-ranking FUNCINPEC officials.

On this occasion, Maj. Gen. Tea Chamrat said, in his capacity as the representative of FUNCINPEC President Prince Norodom Ranariddh and the NAIC General Staff and as the secretary general of the FUNCINPEC, that he was extremely pleased with the historic visit by the UNTAC head and his aides to the FUNCINPEC-administered zone. He reassured H.E. Akashi that the FUNCINPEC will meticulously continue its efforts in the application of the Paris 23 October 1991 accord.

Akashi Stopped From Surveying Khmer Rouge Area

BK3005132792 Hong Kong AFP in English 1305 GMT 30 May 92

[By Jean-Claud Chapon]

[Text] Pailin, Cambodia, May 30 (AFP)—The Khmer Rouge Saturday stopped the head of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) from entering an area under their control, defying the terms of a U.N.-brokered peace accord.

"It is a very serious violation" of the agreement ending 13 years of civil war, signed in Paris in October, Yasushi Akashi said after he was stopped by the Khmer Rouge on a tour of resistance-held zones in north and northwest Cambodia.

The head of UNTAC landed his helicopter in Pailin to meet UNTAC forces stationed there.

But Akashi, with UNTAC military commander Australian Brigadier General John Sanderson, was unable to survey the surrounding area as planned when Khmer Rouge police blocked the town exit and refused to let the UNTAC convoy pass.

Questioned by a member of UNTAC, a ranking Khmer Rouge officer, Colonel Mun Kim Thon, said Akashi had received authorisation to visit Pailin but not to travel through the Khmer Rouge-controlled zone outside the town.

Mun Kim Thon said the reason for turning back the UNTAC convoy was the refusal of the United Nations to verify that Vietnam has withdrawn all its troops from Cambodia.

The Marxist faction, military mainstay of the guerrilla resistance during 13 years of civil war, have stalled the Cambodian peace process for weeks by insisting on U.N. verification of the withdrawal.

Hanoi officially brought home the last of its troops in September 1989, more than 10 years after invading Cambodia to topple the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge from power and install a sympathetic government in Phnom Penh.

The Khmer Rouge are insisting that such verification precede implementation of Phase Two of the peace process, which envisages the demobilisation and disarmament of all armed forces in the country.

"It is clear we have a major difficulty for the full freedom of circulation of UNTAC," Akashi told reporters accompanying him.

He said he had asked all four factions and "especially the Khmer Rouge" in recent days to indicate by early next week at the latest whether they were ready to cooperate with UNTAC.

"I hope that what happened today is not the final answer of the Khmer Rouge," he added.

Akashi contrasted the behaviour of the Khmer Rouge with that of the other three factions—the Phnom Penh government, and followers of Prince Norodom Sihanouk and those of former Prime Minister Son Sann—who he said were fully cooperating with the peace plan.

Earlier Saturday, he received a warm welcome in Phum Ku, in the far northwest province of Siem Reap, where General Toan Chay's pro-Sihanouk FUNCINPEC forces are based.

Hours later Akashi was similarly welcomed in Beanteay Meanrith, in northern Sisophon Province, by General Dien Del, of Son Sann's Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF).

Both factions said they were determined to cooperate with Phase Two of the peace plan, due to start June 13, which is to lead to free elections in April or May 1993.

Khmer Rouge radio, in a broadcast monitored in Bangkok, meanwhile criticised unnamed "non-neutral members of UNTAC" whom it accused of siding with the Phnom Penh government and trying to "destroy" the Khmer Rouge.

The charge came in what the radio said was "a letter from residents of Phnom Penh city to UNTAC." The radio often broadcasts letters from "residents" of various Cambodian cities or provinces as a means of claiming popular support.

Some non-neutral UNTAC members "are attempting by all available means to destroy the party of Democratic Kampuchea," it said, referring to the Khmer Rouge by its formal designation.

8 Villagers Killed in Kompong Cham, Battambang

BK2105055892 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0420 GMT 21 May 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 21—Eight villagers have been killed and six others wounded by Khmer Rouge during their attacks and subversive acts in Kompong Cham and Battambang Provinces.

On May 15, 18 men of Khmer Rouge Division 785 carried out subversive acts and looting sprees in Tang Krasang Village, Batheay District, Kompong Cham Province.

The Khmer Rouge group led by its commanders Chea and San captured a deputy chief of Tang Krasang Village and brought him away with them.

Deputy chief of the village Keo Kin was accused of leading the villagers to attend the Visakhabochea "Buddhist festival" on May 15 at Tang Krasang Pagoda without permission from the group. He was reportedly killed at the pagoda.

In another development, Khmer Rouge of Division 320 pounded recently several shells of artillery on Kdol Tahen Village, Bavel District, Battambang Province, killing seven villagers and wounding six others.

300 Vietnamese Troops Reportedly Sent to Kampot

BK3105032092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 30 May 92

[Excerpt] On 20 May, the Vietnamese aggressors sent 300 troops to Tuk Meas District of Kampot Province.

Upon arrival at the Cambodian-Vietnamese border, these 300 Vietnamese aggressor troops changed from their uniforms into the Phnom Penh army uniforms.

This clearly shows that the Vietnamese aggressors have not abided by the Paris agreement. They have continued sending more troops into Cambodia to launch offensives to kill the Cambodian people in violation of the Paris agreement so that they can forever control Cambodia through the regime that they installed in Cambodia.

The people in Tuk Meas District, as all Cambodian people throughout the country, are greatly enraged by this criminal act of the Vietnamese aggressors. [passage omitted]

SRV 24 May Offensives in Kompong Thom Alleged

BK3005025692 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 May 92

[Excerpt] On 24 May, the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh faction sent many forces, including the A-3 Police Unit, to attack the liberated Thmei village in Sreng Commune, Santuk District, Kompong Thom Province, and kill people. They also launched offensives in areas around Kon K'ek village, Ta Lek Commune, Kompong Svay District, Kompong Thom Province.

In these offensives, the Vietnamese aggressors used many artillery pieces and multiple rocket launchers to fire a salvo into these villages, destroying them and killing many people.

The Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh faction mobilized manpower, ammunition, and war materiel available in the 2d Military Region, Kompong Thom and Kratie Provinces, for these offensives.

This is one of the many violations of the cease-fire accord committed in Kompong Thom Province by the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh faction. [passage omitted]

SRV Troops Said To Rob, Kill in Kompong Cham

BK3105031892 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 30 May 92

[Excerpt] According to a report, on 28 May, the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh faction sent a truck of 30 fully armed Vietnamese troops to rob our people at Chruoy Bet Meas village, Vihear Luong commune, Tbong Khmum District, Kompong Cham Province.

The report said that upon reaching this village, these troops fired at and killed three people. They plundered people's property, took away their cattle and fowl, and burned down many houses. [passage omitted]

Phnom Penh Residents Urge UNTAC Neutrality

BK3005064992 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 May 92

[Letter from people in Phnom Penh to the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia calling on some individuals in the UNTAC to be neutral; dated 27 May—read by announcer]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 27 May 1992

To the chief of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] and the UNTAC military representative:

Having been victimized by the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia for the past 14 years, the people in Phnom Penh are in urgent need of peace with national independence.

We would like to express our elation over the arrival of UNTAC to work for the settlement of the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia in its capacity as a top body of the world.

We have always hoped that the UNTAC would certainly implement all important points of the Paris agreement effectively and correctly. However, after six months have elapsed, we noticed that UNTAC has divided into two parts—one is neutral while the other is partial.

Those who are neutral have tried to implement the Paris agreement according to all its significant points. They have done this to seek peace with national independence for the Cambodian people and maintain the prestige of the United Nations which is the top body of the world.

As for those who are biased, we have noticed that:

1. They have tried to defend the Vietnamese aggressors and the regime that they installed in Phnom Penh.
2. They do not want the four Cambodian factions. They only want two parties within the Vietnamese aggressor regime.
3. They have arduously sought by every means to get rid of the party of Democratic Kampuchea.
4. They want the election to be held under the regime installed in Cambodia by the Vietnamese aggressors.

There are many other problems that we cannot describe here.

In our opinion, if these individuals continue to be biased, we cannot accept this.

All of us want nothing else more than simply for all sides—including UNTAC, the Supreme National Council [SNC], the four Cambodian parties, and Vietnam—to implement the agreement in line with its key points, that is:

1. The Vietnamese aggressors must withdraw from Cambodia under the supervision of UNTAC and four Cambodian factions.
2. The armies of the four Cambodian factions must be dissolved 70 percent in the first phase and then 100 percent in the final stage.
3. The SNC and UNTAC are to play a clear role as the legitimate source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period. The SNC and UNTAC are to control and administer the following five ministries—Ministries of National Defense, Foreign Affairs, Interior and National Security, Finance, and Information.

We want nothing else but to live happily in our country which has genuine peace and national independence.

Will it be possible for us to just want to live happily and to enable our country to have genuine peace and national independence through the correct implementation of the Paris agreement?

[Signed] The people in Phnom Penh.

[Dated] 27 May 1992.

SNC-UNTAC Work Procedures Questioned

BK3105032392 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 30 May 92

[Unattributed commentary: "Are the Procedures of the Supreme National Council and UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia in Keeping With the Paris Agreement or With Something Else?"]

[Text] According to the Paris agreement, the work procedures of the Supreme National Council [SNC] and UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] are as follows:

1. The SNC and UNTAC are to hold discussions on all questions defined in the Paris agreement on the principle of a consensus.

2. Before deciding on any question, the UNTAC must take into consideration all opinions of the SNC if they are in line with the Paris agreement.

But, at the recent negotiations, particularly at the 26 May meeting between the SNC and UNTAC, some officials used their rights and power beyond the framework of the Paris agreement, (? that is the power on the) legal and legislative work procedures of the SNC and UNTAC. As a matter of fact:

1. They did not pay any attention to the opinion of the SNC member from the party of Democratic Kampuchea who demanded the implementation of the 23 October Paris agreement in line with its real essence.

2. They did not take a neutral stance. They helped the Vietnamese aggressors and raised many questions to intentionally attack the party of Democratic Kampuchea.

3. They decided upon all problems arbitrarily, thus clearly showing their stance as the advocates of the Vietnamese aggressor forces and the regime they installed in Phnom Penh.

Is this act in line the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement or is it an implementation of any other law?

The Cambodian nation, people, and national resistance forces and peace-and justice-loving countries across the world have made all-round efforts until the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement was achieved. Their only aim is for Cambodia to enjoy peace, independence, and neutrality and for the Cambodian people to enjoy genuine rights to self-determination free from all pressures or threats morally and with brute force by any party or any foreign aggressor.

In this spirit, the Cambodian nation, people, and national resistance forces stand firm on the Paris agreement dated 23 October 1991 in its entirety, including its essence, legal and legislative proceedings, and work procedures. However, the Cambodian nation, people, and national resistance forces absolutely cannot accept the work procedures which are of colonialist nature.

Ranariddh on Vietnamese Forces' Presence

BK3105064092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Ranariddh, president of the party of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC], said verification of hidden Vietnamese forces in Cambodia should be conducted more meticulously if confirmation has not yet been given by the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] or any well- informed source that no Vietnamese troops are in hiding in Cambodia. The prince stated this at an audience granted to 30 teachers and professors on Saturday [30 May].

Prince Norodom Ranariddh said education is a major issue to be tackled because it is vitally important for the nation. He, therefore, asked those educational staff to continue teaching the Cambodian students. He added that rumors that if the FUNCINPEC party wins elections, it will dissolve various ministries, institutions, and services are only the most insidious and basest propaganda. The administration of the country depends on the public servants, intellectuals, and students who are the pillar of the country regardless of their political persuasions, he reaffirmed.

Prince Norodom Ranariddh concluded by saying the survival of the nation is in the hands of the Cambodian people, officials, intellectuals, and students. So in the future UN-organized elections in Cambodia, all eligible Cambodians should ponder meticulously before casting their ballots for a party.

Sihanouk Receives British Ministry Official

BK2805072892 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 28 May 92

[Text] On the morning of 27 May at Khemarin Palace, His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council, granted an audience to His Excellency [H.E.] (James Cole), deputy secretary of the British Foreign Ministry, who was in the company of H.E. David Burns, special envoy of Great Britain to Cambodia.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk warmly welcomed the British delegation, saying its official visit symbolizes strengthening the relations of solidarity and friendship and cooperation between Cambodia and Great Britain. The prince added that he had, while visiting some provinces, seen the people's living conditions improving and public buildings, including schools and hospitals, erected. This is evidence of the efforts displayed by the Cambodian populace under the leadership of the Cambodian People's Party.

The prince further said on behalf of Cambodia and the Cambodian people that he thanked the international community, various humanitarian organizations, and all friendly countries for their contributions to promoting the Paris peace accord and restoring Cambodia.

In his reply, H.E. (James Cole) highly valued the latest achievements he had seen in Cambodia, saying that under the prince's leadership the Cambodian people will achieve rapid prosperity as they wish.

Hun Sen Thanked by Japanese Deputy Minister

BK2505034392 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 24 May 92

["Message of Thanks" to Hun Sen, chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers and member of the Supreme National Council, from Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa; date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Your Excellency for having given your valuable time to meet me during my recent visit to Phnom Penh. I was greatly honored with the audience during which you provided me with your views and information on the current situation in Cambodia.

Now I have a clearer idea about what should be done for the implementation of the Paris accord and the reconstruction of Cambodia. Among other things, you expressed an ardent hope for the contribution of manpower by Japan to the operation of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia. This issue has now a great impact on the debate concerning the bill [words indistinct) in the Diet. I wish to reassure you that my government has striven to its utmost to push for the adoption of the law as soon as possible.

May Your Excellency have every success and the best of health, and may Cambodia achieve peace and prosperity.

Hor Namhong Receives Finnish Ambassador 23 May

BK2505072492 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 25 May 92

[Text] On the morning of 23 May at the Foreign Ministry, His Excellency [H.E.] Hor Namhong, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, met with H.E. Eero Salovaara, extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Republic of Finland to Cambodia, who came to pay a courtesy call on and show him the credentials to be presented to His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council.

H.E. Hor Namhong warmly welcomed the mission of the Finnish ambassador, saying: Although our two countries are far away from one another, the two peoples love peace and maintain a neutral stance equally. He added that Cambodia has declared its permanent neutrality in the Constitution. He then briefed the Finnish envoy on the current situation in Cambodia and appealed for food aid for needy people who earlier suffered from natural calamities and for repatriated Cambodian refugees.

The Finnish ambassador expressed pleasure with his mission in Cambodia, disclosing that this is the first time he has visited our country. He was surprised to seesthe significant developments in Cambodia. He pledged to strive to improve the relations of friendship and cooperation between Cambodia and Finland.

Chakkrapong, Malaysian Discuss Training 20 May

BK2305103692 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0410 GMT 23 May 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 23—Malaysia will help train Cambodian students in computer operations for administration and air control for airliner services.

This was declared by Deva Mohamed Ridzam Abdullah, Malaysian diplomat accredited to the Supreme National Council of Cambodia (SNC) during a meeting here on May 20 with Deputy Prime Minister Norodom Chakkrapong.

The Malaysian diplomat said that Malaysia would also help train Cambodian pilots, engineers, and airport general managers. English and Malaysian language courses would be also opened for them, he added.

He said Malaysia agreed to send its trainers to train Cambodians here in order to strengthen and develop solidarity and friendship between the two countries.

Under the previous agreement, Malaysia is to help train Cambodians in Malaysia.

For his part, Deputy Prime Minister Chakkrapong expressed his thanks to the Malaysian Government and people for helping develop Cambodia's airline service in this crucial stage.

Norodom Chakkrapong, who joined the government of the State of Cambodia in January this year, made the first state visit to Kuala Lumpur in March.

Chea Sim Visits Muslims in Russei Keo District

BK2805081992 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 28 May 92

[Text] On the morning of 27 May, a high-level delegation of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] led by His Excellency [H.E.] Chea Sim—chairman of the CPP Central Committee, National Assembly, and the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense—who was in the company of Mr. Sim Ka, member of the Standing Committee of the

CPP Central Committee and chairman of the Phnom Penh party committee and people's committee, and many other officials, visited Islamic compatriots in a mosque at Kilometer 8 in Russei Keo District. The delegation also made cash donations toward building seven mosques and acquiring some scriptures for the Islamic devotees in the district.

H.E. Chea Sim expressed profound gratitude to the Islamic compatriots for their share in rebuilding and defending Cambodia over the past 13 years. He also pointed out the great achievements, including bridges, roads, schools, hospitals, monasteries, and so on previously damaged by war and the disaster of the past, which the CPP and the Cambodian Government and people had restored. H.E. Chea Sim also spoke about the peace-seeking process in Cambodia which has gradually evolved toward holding elections in the near future. He stressed that the CPP and the Government of the State of Cambodia [SOC] had greatly shown patience by further respecting and implementing the Paris 23 October 1991 peace accord although the Khmer Rouge continue to breach the cease-fire. As always, the SOC side only wants to see all the parties correctly implement the accord so as to put an end to the bloody war. This is to bring about national reunification and peace, thereby building the nation toward prosperity and glory.

Details of Currently Operating Airlines Noted

BK2305054492 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0413 GMT 23 May 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 23—Eleven airlines are now operating passenger and cargo airlinks in Cambodia, according to Thach Uk, head of the office of the state-run Kampuchea Airlines.

Vietnam Airlines, Lao Aviation, Aeroflot and Malaysia Airlines, which are all state-run, respectively conduct air flight service from Ho Chi Minh City, Vientiane, Moscow and Kuala Lumpur to Phnom Penh and vice versa, Thach Uk said.

Seven other private-run [airlines] are Cambodia International Airlines, Phnom Penh Airways, SK Air, Star Airways, Sunrise Travel, Philippine Airlines, and Asia Pacific Air Cargo.

Two more privates airlines, Silk Air and Diamond Overseas Travel, are requesting to launch airline services between Singapore and Phnom Penh, and Taiwan, Hong Kong and Phnom Penh, said the Cambodian airlines official.

The Cambodian aircraft, which operates flights from Phnom Penh to Ho Chi Minh City, also has connection to Paris by Air France, he said.

Indonesia

'Source': Courts Martial on Dili Incident Begin

BK3005084992 Hong Kong AFP in English 0828 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Jakarta, May 30 (AFP)—The Indonesian military have begun court-martialling army members accused of disobedience during the November massacre in East Timor in which scores of civilians died, a military source said Saturday.

Three trials opened Friday in Denpasar, on the resort island of Bali, the military source told AFP, adding that two other court martials were due to begin next week.

Denpasar serves as headquarters of the Udayana military command which oversees security matters in the southeastern part of the country, including the former Portuguese colony of East Timor, which Indonesia unilaterally declared its 27th province in 1976.

The source identified the defendants as two army privates and one police corporal, and said the court martials were open to the public.

In Indonesia, the police form part of the country's armed forces.

These three first trials were supposed to end as early as Saturday afternoon, the source said.

Army Chief General Eddy Sudrajat in February announced that four officers and four troops would face court martials following a military inquiry into the shooting in Dili, East Timor.

Indonesian troops fired into a crowd of demonstators gathered at a cemetery in Dili for a memorial service November 12, killing some 50 people, authorities said. They acknowledge that another 90 people have remained missing since.

Sudrajat also said three officers were dismissed from the forces and three transferred to non-command postings, while five were to stand further investigation.

He gave no names or ranks. But several independent sources indicate that General Rudolf Samuel Warouw, dismissed from his command of East Timor garrison after the massacre, is among those 11 officers.

The chief executive of the military's Supreme Court, Major General Suhadi, said in April legal documents concerning nine military members to be tried in connection with the Dili shooting were already in the hands of military prosecutors.

Observers have speculated that one of the five officers further investigated by the military probe team could be the ninth military member to face court martial.

Five East Timorese accused of involvement in anti-Indonesian and separatist activities in relation to the

Dili massacre have been handed jail sentences of nine months to 1O years in recent weeks by Indonesian courts.

Campaign Violation 'Purely of Criminal Nature'

BK3005104092 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0740 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Jakarta, May 30 (OANA/ANTARA)—Chairman of Jakarta Supervising Committee for Electoral Campaigns (Panwaslak) B.T.P. Siregar said, there is no evidence so far of infringements due to a political engineering in the campaign activities here.

After meeting Singgih, Chairman of the Central Panwaslak on Friday, Sigegar said violations committed during the campaigns were all purely of criminal nature.

Siregar cited as an example the stone-throwing affair in Matraman when PDI [Indonesian Democratic Party] was staging a campaign on May 27, the initiators of which are now being interrogated by the police.

Jakarta PDI Chairman Alex Asmasubrata has said that there are indications that they are not PDI supporters.

Results of preliminary investigation by the police have revealed that someone had presented singlets with PDI symbol to three youngsters, he said.

He then took them to Kebayoran Beru to drink alcoholic beverages whereupon the three were ordered to resort to crime, he added.

The three were later arrested by the police for blackmailing car passengers, Atmasubrata said adding that PDI praised the steps taken by the police against the violators of campaigns regulations.

Jakarta Police Chief Major General M.H. Ritonga Friday said the Matraman Affair on May 27 had nothing to do with the campaign activities.

He made the statement after observing the PPP [United Development Party]'s campaigns at Senayan from a helicopter.

He acknowledged that conflicts often arise, even before the campaign period, in Matraman between two youth groups.

Coinciding with one of the conflicts, PDI launched a campaign, he said adding that the May 27 conflict resulted in pelted houses and cars.

Four culprits (two from each sides) have been subjected to interrogation but not detention, Ritonga said.

For the final round of the campaign period, a total of 9,000 police officers plus some 2,000 from the Jakarta Military Command have been mobilized to safeguard the PDI, PPP and Golkar [Functional Group] supporters, he said, adding that only cars with official stickers will be allowed to pass certain roads during the last leg of the three contestants' campaigns.

Those with no stickers will be shifted to other streets in order not to obstruct the campaign participants, Ritonga said.

PDI Holds Rally; Speaker Condemns Corruption

BK3105111692 Hong Kong AFP in English 1008 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Jakarta, May 31 (AFP)—The smallest of Indonesia's three political parties literally painted the capital red Sunday, as over two million people donned red, the party's colour, in support of its last open electoral campaign rally here.

About 500,000 supporters packed a huge parking lot at the sprawling Senayan sport complex to attend the last open rally in Jakarta of the Democratic Party of Indonesia (PDI).

A record campaign crowd of at least two million other supporters, mostly young Indonesians, riding anything from bicycles to large container trucks, opted to jam the city's main thouroughfares for miles in every direction.

"Jakarta this day, is red," PDI Chairman Suryadi told a cheering crowd at the parking lot. He exhorted the crowd to cast their vote for his party, which he said was one for the "commoner" and which will fight for more democracy and to obliterate corruption.

The party, also drew a record crowd of some 1.5 million people at its last campaign rally day in the last elections in 1987. The huge turnout, however, was not reflected in the number of votes it gathered.

PDI, a Christian-nationalist alliance, came in third by garnering 11 percent of the some 86 million counted votes in 1987. The Moslem-oriented United Development Party (PPP) took 16 percent while the ruling Golkar Party clinched an overhelming majority with 73 percent.

Suryadi said the main obstruction to the country's development was not inflation but corruption and PDI will try to draft an anti-graft law and will make every effort to get it ratified by parliament.

He also attacked the present Indonesian political system which relied on the "floating mass system" that only allowed the masses a single five-yearly encounter with politics, namely during the election period.

Under the system, Indonesian parties are not allowed to operate at below the sub-district level. But in practice Golkar has access to the grass roots through the administration, which up to the smallest units are headed by pro-government people.

Suryadi pledged to do away with the floating mass system and allow people a greater say and participation in politics.

Guruh Sukarno Putra, the son of the country's popular founding president Sukarno, urged party supporters to stay near polling booths after casting their vote on June 9 "so that you can help verify the ballot count."

PDI's open rally was the last for Jakarta. The other remaining three days of the campaign period, which ends Wednesday, will only see smaller party campaign rallies and meetings inside buildings.

The 25-day campaign period will be followed by a five-day cooling period before Indonesians cast their ballots on June 9.

The PPP, PDI, and the Golkar will compete for the 400 parliamentary seats up for grabs. Another 100 seats are alloted to members of the armed forces who under the law do not have the right to vote in elections.

The parliamentarians will join another 500 people appointed from all walks of life, representing the regions, main sociopolitical mass organizations and professional groupings to form the country's highest legislative body, the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR.)

The MPR, in its only sitting held the year following elections, will choose the next president and vice president for the upcoming term.

'Hundreds of Thousands' at Rally

BK3105123892 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Suryadi, general chairman of the Indonesian Democratic Party [PDI] Central Executive Council, has made it clear that corrupt officials who harm the nation and steal the people's money must be severely punished. Speaking before hundreds of thousands of PDI supporters at the parking lot on the eastern wing of the Senayan Stadium in Jakarta this afternoon, Suryadi said the people's money had to be properly managed and should not be used for group or personal interests. In addition to Suryadi, Alex Asmasubrata, chairman of the Jakarta PDI Regional Executive Council, also addressed the seventh election rally. The open rally was also attended by Singgih, chairman of the National Election Monitoring Committee, and Gustav Siregar, chairman of the Jakarta Regional Election Monitoring Committee.

Over 1 Million Support PPP Rally in Jakarta

BK2905152792 Hong Kong AFP in English 1146 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Jakarta, May 29 (AFP)—The Indonesian capital Friday turned green as over one million supporters of the Moslem-oriented United Development Party (PPP) donned their party's color and thronged the city's main thoroughfare.

About 500,000 PPP supporters gathered to listen to speakers at the party's last open electoral campaign rally at the parking lot of Jakarta's huge Senayan sport complex, while about a million others roamed the city's main avenues and streets on motorbikes, cars, pickup vans, trucks and buses.

"Everybody has the right to be a president and PPP supports more than one presidential candidates," PPP campaign speaker Sri Bintang Pamungkas told the rally.

Earlier this month, PPP started the 25-day campaing period leading to the parliamentary elections on June 9 saying that the party will renominate President Suharto to run for a sixth term when his current five-year term ends in 1993.

Suharto, 70, has so far run unnopposed but for the first time, some executives from the other opposition party, the Christian-nationalist Democratic Party of Indonesia (PDI), have named other potential candidates for the next presidency.

Named were Home Affairs Minister Rudini and Guruh Sukarno Putra, a son of the country's popular founding president Sukarno.

"We do not care who will be the (next) president, as long as he can fight for Moslem aspirations," Pamungkas, an academic, said to the cheers of the packed crowd.

Meanwhile outside the sport complex and lining the main avenues leading to it, thousands of PPP supporters mingled with curious onlookers to watch and cheer PPP motorcades or vehicles carrying supporters in and out of the rally's venue.

The throng of PPP vehicles blocked traffic in the city's main north to south and west to east thoroughfares for hours from around noon.

Flashing the index finger, representing the party's alloted number on the ballot papers, supporters on the vehicles or on the roadside shouted party yells and chanted Islamic holy verses.

There were no reports yet of violence or accidents, police said.

The electoral campaign period is scheduled to end Wednesday. It will be followed by a five-day cooling down period before some 108 million Indonesians cast their ballots to choose the party to represent them at the legislative.

The country's three government-recognized political parties, the PPP, PDI and the ruling Golkar, will compete for the 400 parliamentary seats up for grabs. Another 100 seats are alloted to members of the armed forces who under the law do not have the right to vote in elections.

The parliamentarians will join another 500 people appointed from all walks of life, representing the regions, main socio-political mass organizations and professional groupings to form the country's highest legislative body, the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR.)

The MPR, in its single five-yearly sitting held the year following elections year, will choose the next president and vice president for the upcoming term.

Saturday will see Golkar's last national rally while Sunday is allotted for the PDI. The three parties were still allowed to hold campaign rallies between Monday and Wednesday but only on a smaller scale and inside buildings.

Campaigner Reiterates Party's Program

BK2905161192 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] United Developmenty Party (PPP) held an election rally at Senayan stadium car park, east of Jakarta today. Speaking at the rally, the party's campaigner, Ismail Hassan, reiterated that his party's program is to struggle for democracy in every field such as in politics, the socio-economic field, and education. Ismail Hassan also said that his party will ask for the abolition of any kind of unauthorized collection of donations for elementary schools. He said this is because such kind of fund raising will be a burden to the people.

According to Ismail Hassan good education is very important for creating a qualified Indonesian society.

The festive campaign, which was decorated with star-shaped flags, was attended by several party officials.

Solo Operations by Big Businessmen Not Allowed

BK3105105592 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1022 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Entikong, Pontianak, May 30 (ANTARA)—President Suharto stated here Saturday that his government would never let big capital owners to do business alone without involving small-scale businessmen in their projects.

"The government obliges all big capital owners to always involve small-scale businessmen and common people in their businesses," The head of government said in a friendly meeting with local people after he dedicated a number of projects worth about U.S. $20 billion [amount as received] in West Kalimantan.

He said the duty was in line with the national efforts to realize the trilogy of development programs, namely the equitable distribution of development results, economic growth, and stability.

During the meeting, he asked local people about the development of orange trade, which reportedly had fluctuated often.

An orange grower disclosed that the price of orange had been reasonably good. But he said P.T. Bima Citra Mandiri, a company that manages the orange trade, had to increase its stock capacity so that farmers' interests would not be harmed.

He said the farmers needed to have further guidelines to maintain the good quality of the agricultural goods.

President and his wife Mrs. Tien Suharto was on a one-day visit to the West Kalimantan Province to dedicate a 94.8-km road linking Tanjung and Entikong near the border with Sarawak of Malaysia, two palm oil processing plants, and a hospital owned by PTP VII [state-owned agricultural corporation].

He was accompanied by Minister of Agriculture Wardoyo, Minister of Public Works Radinal Mokhtar, and the armed forces chief, General Try Sutrisno.

Laos

Unit's Shootdown of U.S. Planes Remembered

BK3105083792 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0430 GMT 28 May 92

[Feature by Boualapha Thindoi on past "heroic" deeds of Lao Air Defense Battalion 456]

[Summary] "Respected listeners, beloved senior military officers and soldiers, 27 years ago on 2 May 1965, an important event took place in our Armed Forces: the formation of Air Defense Battalion 456." The new battalion was a combination of air defense cadres and combatants from Companies 26, 27, 28, and 29. Between 4 and 6 June that year, the Battalion fought courageously against "air pirates of the neocolonialist imperialists" to defend the stronghold of Viangsai District, which served as the center of the liberated zone in those days. The air pirates used all kinds of aircraft to carry out bombing operations "throughout three days and three nights with the aim of completely destroying the Lao revolutionary armed forces" in that particular area. The Lao people's armed forces fought heroically and managed to shoot down scores of warplanes of the enemies, thus handing them a "bitter defeat." With such heroic deeds, the name of the then Anti-Aircraft Battalion was changed into Air Defense Battalion 456.

Recalling the heroic fighting carried out by cadres and combatants of the Lao air defense forces, particularly those attached to Air Defense Battalion 456, all those who experienced or participated in the fighting described it as a "dreadful scene of the past". That was because one side used bombs and modern weapons with the intention of completely destroying their rivals while the other side fought back relentlessly with gallant fighting spirit.

After a total violation of the 1962 Geneva Accord, the special war waged by the neocolonialist imperialists was gradually escalated. "In addition to mobilizing the rightist forces, especially the Vang Pao special forces, to launch nibbling attacks against the liberated zone, the neocoloniaist-imperialists also deployed their Air Force to overtly carry out an air war against our country from 17 May 1964 onward. In doing this, they used all kinds of aircraft to drop various types of bombs on the liberated zone to barbarously kill innocent people." Such an action thus gradually sparked strong indignation among the multiethnic Lao people and caused them to stage an uprising throughout the country.

Intensifying their air raids against the liberated zone, the air pirates focused their attacks against our revolutionary stronghold in Viangsai District. They then regarded the Viangsai stronghold as a special target for their bombardments, aimed at breaking the backbone of the Lao Patriotic Front. To accomplish their objective, the enemy deployed all kinds of warplanes to fly hundreds of bombing sorties against the district, thus inflicting heavy damage on our people's property.

Shortly after the formation of Air Defense Battalion 456, the neocolonialist-imperialists once more launched the "most intense and disastrous attacks" against Viangsai District. "Their aircraft flew bombing attacks continuously throughout three days and three nights. Not a single minute went by without the sound of aircraft." All the cadres and combatants of the battalion then fought back courageously up to the very last minute without any fear of death.

"As a result, the Lao combatants not only successfully managed to safeguard the Viangsai stronghold but were also able to shoot down 12 enemy aircraft, thus earning its name as the gallant Air Defense Battalion 456."

Throughout the defensive operation, our revolutionary armed forces registered a total of 517 fights against the enemy—15 of which were ferocious ones. "All in all, they shot down more than 110 enemy warplanes and captured five enemy pilots."

The tasks undertaken by Air Defense Battalion 456 were truely heroic indeed. Due to their gallant spirit and great victories, the Battalion has been been bestowed with great honor and high praise in Lao history.

PRC's Yunnan Group Meets Interior Minister

BK3005065392 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Yesterday, Interior Minister A-sang Laoli received a courtesy call from a delegation of PRC's Yunnan Province led by Bai Zuoguang, vice chairman of the Yunnan Provincial People's Administration. The delegation is currently on a visit to Laos.

On this occasion, the host and guest noted the success in planting the Lao-Chinese friendship boundary posts, a success which, they said, has been achieved as a result of the good cooperation and mutual understanding on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. They also discussed the problem of creating favorable conditions for the two peoples residing along the Lao-Chinese border, in particular those Lao people of various provinces bordering Yunnan Province and Yunnan people of China, to exchange visits. In addition, the two sides discussed means to obstruct adverse incidents that might affect the solidarity and friendship between the two peoples and to contribute to increasingly promoting the friendly relations between Laos and China.

The meeting and discussion between the host and guest proceeded in a good atmosphere of friendship. The delegation of the PRC's Yunnan Province has been visiting our country since 24 May.

Meets deputy Foreign Minister

BK3005151992 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 30 May 92

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] On the afternoon of 29 May, Soulivong Phasitthidet, deputy foreign affairs minister and chairman of the Lao-Chinese border demarcation committee, also met and held talks with the delegation of Yunnan Province. The two sides discussed implementation of the border treaty between the two countries and the safeguarding of the success of mutual cooperation in placing Lao-Chinese border demarcation posts. The two sides also consulted with each other on the progress in development of cooperation and relations between Laos and China in various fields.

On the morning of the same day, Phimpha Thepkhamheuang, vice mayor of Vientiane Municipality, held talks with the Yunnan Provincial delegation. The two sides discussed relations and cooperation in the economic field, import-export business, in building a textile factory, in the hotel business, the possibility of planting (?rubber trees) in Vientiane Municipality, and art and cultural exchanges between Vientiane Municipality and Yunnan Province.

Memorandum Signed

BK3106131192 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] On the evening of 29 May, the signing of a memorandum on the meeting between Lao and Chinese authorities was held at the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations.

At the signing ceremony, the Lao side was represented by Mrs. Khampheng Phonsena, deputy minister of foreign economic relations; his Chinese counterpart was Zhao Huangguang, vice chairman of the Yunnan Provincial People's Administration.

In the memorandum, both sides stated that the main objective of the meeting was to encourage the implementation of the convention dated 8 October 1989 on the solving of issues concerning activities along the border of the two countries. The memorandum noted that the previous agreement, which was signed by the governments of the two countries, has yielded positive results, because the two countries have focused on expanding the friendly relations of neighborliness between them and safeguarding the peace and security of the two peoples living along the common border.

With the desire to promote cooperation economically, in trade, and in other fields, and to facilitate the improving of living conditions and the exchange of visits of the peoples along the Lao-Chinese border in a way that conforms with the principles of the aforementioned convention and the real present situation, the two sides exchanged their opinions and reached agreement as follows:

Both sides agreed to open seven more temporary checkpoints along the Lao-Chinese border, adding to the four border checkpoints already agreed upon and stated in the previous accord dated 8 October 1989. Both sides agreed to step up measures to facilitate activities along the border, to protect bilateral trade activities and border trading, to safeguard peace, and to facilitate communications between the peoples of the two countries along the border.

Philippines

Manila Plans To Buy Surplus U.S. Equipment

HK3105014892 Hong Kong AFP in English 0746 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Manila, May 30 (AFP)—The Philippines plans to buy hospital, navigational and military equipment to be left behind after Washington pulls out of its military bases in this country, President Corazon Aquino's chief aide said here Saturday.

However Presidential Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon said he did not know how much these items would cost or how Manila would pay for them.

The Philippines has been negotiating with the United States to acquire some of the equipment, Drilon said, citing equipment from U.S. military hospitals and air navigational equipment from Cubi Point airfield north of here.

The Philippine military were also studying acquiring surplus U.S. military equipment, Drilon said without elaborating.

U.S. forces are due to pull out of this country by the end of this year after the Philippine senate rejected a treaty extending their stay.

Open to Continued U.S. Access

HK0106043692 Quezon City MALAYA in English 31 May 92 p 3

[By Chit Estella—italicized passage published in Tagalog]

[Text] Malacanang said yesterday the Philippines is open to the idea of continued access by U.S. military aircraft and vessels after the end of the Military Bases Agreement on the condition that the United States would pay for this.

Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon, who took charge of talks with U.S. representatives on the proposed three-year withdrawal period, said: "Access arrangements were always an option that was examined all this time. I personally see [no] problem as long as there is appropriate compensation just like any commercial vessel that would avail itself of the facilities in Subic." "In the same manner, any use by American armed forces of the facilities can be arranged provided there is adequate and proper compensation," he added.

Drilon did not say what would constitute "adequate and proper compensation."

While the U.S. has not yet formally sought continued access, it has discussed with Malacanang officials the importance of regional security.

When asked why the Americans went through the trouble of discussing regional security with Philippine officials without making any concrete suggestion for the role they expected the Philippines to play, a Palace official said: *"Well, I do not know, but we almost fell asleep during their briefing."*

The American group that conducted the briefing was led by U.S. Ambassador Frank Wisner.

Drilon said if Americans were allowed continued access, they would be authorized to carry nuclear weapons on their ships or aircraft.

He said the prohibition on nuclear weapons covers only their storage in Philippine territory and does not include transit.

Ramos on 'Asset Arrangement'

HK0106011292 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 31 May 92

[Italicized passages in English]

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos may strike an *asset arrangement* with the United States with regard to its forces at Subic Naval Base and nearby Cubi Point Air Station. In an interview after he claimed victory in the presidential race, the former defense secretary said he plans to review the relationship between the United States and the Philippines. The administration candidate also hopes the relationship between the Philippines and Japan will continue to improve under his administration. According to Ramos, Admiral Charles Larson, commander of the U.S. forces in the Asia-Pacific region, has expressed willingness to strike an *asset arrangement* with the government after the total withdrawal of U.S. forces from the country.

Abadia Denies U.S. Aid To Cease

HK3005030992 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] General Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] chief of staff, denied reports that the

United States will stop providing military aid to the Philippines. He said that there will only be a reduction in military aid and not a total cessation, despite the Senate's rejection of the bases treaty. He explained that the reduction in military aid is due to the U.S. Defense Department's budget cuts. Earlier, it was reported that the United States would totally withdraw its military assistance to the Philippines. U.S. military aid is being used to modernize the AFP.

Retired U.S. Air Force Member Killed

HK0106033592 Manila DIYARYO FILIPINO in Tagalog 1 Jun 92 p 8

[By Rudy Abular]

[Text] A retired member of the U.S. Air Force and a member of the Citizen's Armed Forces Geographical Unit [CAFGU] were killed by suspected members of the New People's Army [NPA] at Mabalacat, Pampanga last 30 May.

According to reports received by Superintendent Pantaleon Dumlao Jr., Central Luzon Philippine National Police chief, the rebels killed Robert Jack Biondy, 52, of Barangay Dau, and Jose Paloma, 38, of Barangay Sta. Ines, Malabacat.

Biondy reportedly was watching a billiard game inside the Pilipinas Disco Pub in Carmen Street, Dau at around 2030 [1230 GMT] last Saturday when he was shot by two unidentified men.

Biondy was hit in the head and died instantly.

Paloma, on the other hand, was on board a passenger jeepney on its way to the CAFGU camp in Carmen Phase 1 at around 1930 [1130 GMT] last Saturday, when five of his fellow passengers pointed their guns at him.

The five men forced Paloma off the jeepney in front of Villa Rivera Compound, Barangay Mabiga. There, he was shot in the head and died instantly.

Dumlao said that there is a great possibility that the NPA was responsible for the two incidents, considering that the methods used in liquidating the two victims were the same.

Authorities are still investigating the motive for the murders.

Manglapus To Give Up Government Service

HK2905133592 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 29 May 92

[By Rey Arquiza]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus today said he will not accept any government position after President Aquino's term expires on 30 June. He added that neither is he interested in becoming the permanent Philippine ambassador to the United Nations. He said he has recommended someone else for this position, but refused to identify the person. Manglapus said he will continue with his private practice and will remain president of the National Union of Christian Democrats. He issued the statement after it was reported that he will remain in government as foreign affairs secretary until the end of this year.

Cojuangco, Estrada Lead in Congress Tabulation

HK3005030892 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] As of 1945 last night [1145 GMT 29 May], the Cojuangco-Estrada tandem continues to lead in the Congress tabulation. The votes counted in the Congress' initial canvassing were from Camiguin, Batangas, La Union, Zambales and Aurora. Eduardo Danding Cojuangco was able to garner 172,777 votes, while Joseph Estrada was able to get 184,079 votes. Cojuangco was followed by Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats presidential candidate Fidel Ramos. In third place was former first lady Imelda Marcos, while Miriam Defensor Santiago occupied fourth place. Mitra, Salonga, and Laurel occupy fifth, sixth, and seventh place respectively.

In the vice presidential race, second place is occupied by Ramon Magsaysay Jr; third, former Chief Justice Marcelo Fernan; fourth, Lito Osmena; fifth, Senator Aquilino Pimentel Jr.; sixth, Vicente Magsaysay Jr.; and in last place, Eva Estrada Kalaw.

Drilon Warns of Crisis if Proclamation Delayed

HK3005084792 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 30 May 92

[By Rowena Papasin; italicized passages in English]

[Text] Malacanang announced this afternoon that the country faces a political and constitutional crisis if Congress fails to proclaim the new president by 30 June. This warning was made by Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon following reports that the Reform the Armed Forces Movement and the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army [RAM-CPP-NPA] will be joining forces to stall the proclamation of the nation's new leaders.

Drilon reiterated that both leftist and rightist groups no longer have the capability to launch another destabilization attempt. He said, however, that a constitutional and political crisis will besiege the country if no president and vice president are proclaimed by the 30 June. The executive secretary declined from giving any possible scenario if no president is proclaimed. In light of the looming RAM-CPP-NPA no proclamation attempt, he said, the Congress should speed up its canvassing to ensure that the country's new officials will be proclaimed. He also called on the congressmen to fulfill their constitutional duty to avoid any constitutional crisis in the Philippines.

[Begin recording] [Drilon] *I don't want to attribute any agenda, I just want to point out that if there is no president proclaimed by 1 July, the country will be plunged into a crisis.*

[Reporter] *Constitutional?*

[Drilon] *Constitutional, political crisis.*

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct] What can you do to avoid this constitutional or political crisis?

[Drilon] *We will just have to appeal to the more reasonable and responsible members of Congress to perform their constitutional duty of proclaiming the president elect.* [end recording]

At the same time, Drilon also called on media to increase its vigilance and monitor the speedier canvassing by Congress. He said that President Aquino has already done all that she is capable of doing and it is now up to the media to ensure that the country will not be plunged into a crisis if the nation's new leaders are not proclaimed.

Ramos Claims Victory in Presidential Poll

HK3005053592 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0440 GMT 30 May 92

[By Ed Versola]

[Text] During a news conference at around 1140 [0340 GMT] this morning at Manila's Peninsula Hotel, Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats presidential candidate Fidel V. Ramos claimed victory in the presidential elections.

Although the nation continues to wait for the results of the Congress joint-session tabulation, Ramos claimed victory based on the results of 75 percent of votes tabulated. The former defense secretary said it was not with pride that he claimed his victory, rather it was with humility that he accepted the people's mandate for him to become the next president of the country. He said that his primary concern at the moment is to genuinely unify the nation, which is clearly divided as shown in the past election.

Ramos also promised to create a government that will implement programs that will answer the immediate problems of the country. He also promised to spearhead genuine change toward a healthy society.

He said that he had learned a lot about our country during his campaign. Primarily, he learned how divided the nation was and that proper government involves the unification of the people as one nation and under one spirit.

He promised that his government will try to bridge the gap between the rich and the poor, to further develop the long-neglected countryside, and to unify and rejuvenate the nation according to the will of the people, despite our geographic separation.

Discusses Aquino Achievements

OW3105013992 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 30 May 92

[Excerpt from "interview" with former Defense Minister Fidel Ramos by unidentified NHK reporter after Ramos' declaration of victory in the presidential election on 30 May; place not given—recorded; in English with superimposed Japanese subtitles; taken from the English]

[Text] [Monitored in progress] ...Aquino did what she promised to do, which is to transform the gains achieved during the people power revolution of February 1986 into the political empowerment of the people and establishment of a functioning democracy in the Philippines. And she has done that, but now we must attend to the economic empowerment of the people. We have the foreign investments have [as heard] already in place. Maybe, they should be reviewed and perhaps further improved and made more adaptive by reducing the so-called negative list which is the list of areas and industries in which foreign investors cannot come in. Maybe we should reduce that.

Congress Adjourns With Only 9 Percent Counted

HK3105033392 Hong Kong AFP in English 0307 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Manila, May 31 (AFP)—Congress adjourned its count of votes cast in the May 11 presidential election Sunday despite ex-defense secretary Fidel Ramos' declaration of victory based on a more-advanced semi-official count.

Congress, which has only counted about five percent of the votes adjourned for a break Sunday despite earlier boasts it would continue the count until a clear winner emerged.

Rightist tycoon Eduardo Cojuangco had a slight lead in the congress count before the adjournment, closely followed by anti-graft activist Miriam Santiago, Ramos and former first lady Imelda Marcos.

Ramos maintained a commanding lead in the semi-official Media-Citizens Quick Count (MCQC) which has counted more than 75 percent of the votes cast. He was followed by Santiago, Cojuangco and House Speaker Ramon Mitra.

Ramos, President Corazon Aquino's handpicked successor, had claimed victory Saturday, basing his statement on the MCQC figures.

The congress count, which is expected to confirm the Quick Count, has been repeatedly delayed by legal maneuvers by congressional supporters and lawyers of Cojuangco, Santiago and Marcos.

Aquino's chief aide, Franklin Drilon called on congress to speed up their count, saying failure to proclaim a president by June 30, when Aquino steps down, could precipitate a political crisis since there is no law for a caretaker government.

However the congress leadership rebuffed him, saying he should not interfere in legislative matters.

There are widespread fears that losing candidates are intentionally trying to cause a political crisis by delaying the count.

Maximo Soliven, publisher of the conservative PHILIPPINE STAR newspaper assailed the congress delays Sunday, saying "there's not an ounce of patriotism in them. Only selfish self-interest."

Hopes To Speed Up Vote Count

HK0106013792 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] The Congress hopes that its joint committee can speed up the tabulation of the various certificates of canvass by this week. According to Senator Vicente Paterno and Representative Ronaldo Zamora, leaders of the Congress joint committee, their committee will try to finish more than seven certificates of canvass per day. Paterno said that the committee will not entertain any complaint filed by the legal councils of the various presidential candidates if their complaints have weak bases.

The Congress started its special session last 25 May and only nine certificates of canvass have been counted. The Congress needs to count a total of 94 certificates of canvass before it can proclaim the new leaders of the nation.

As of the latest count last Saturday, former Ambassador Eduardo Danding Cojuangco continues to lead with 323,053 votes.

In the latest Media Citizen's Quick Count tabulation, administration candidate Fidel Ramos continues to lead, followed by People's Reform candidate Miriam Defensor Santiago.

Cojuangco Accuses Ramos Camp of Fraud in Province

HK0106061292 Quezon City MALAYA in English 1 Jun 92 p 1

[Text] Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco Jr. yesterday accused the Lakas-NUCD [Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats] of committing "unprecedented" vote-buying and fraud in Pangasinan, the home province of its standard-bearer Fidel V. Ramos.

Cojuangco said Conrado Estrella, provincial head of the Nationalist People's Coalition, reported that Ramos supporters were responsible for the disappearance of 67 of the 249 election returns from Urdaneta town.

He added that the Ramos men were "protected" by military officers in the province. He did not elaborate.

As this developed, Miriam Defensor Santiago challenged Ramos to a television debate on the "statistical probabilities" of his victory in the May 11 elections.

She said Ramos's declaration of victory last Saturday was part of a psychological warfare campaign to cover up vote-padding by his party.

"The public knows that Ramos has been conducting a psy-war campaign to cover-up for the statistical falsification of canvass certificates by his party. He has been using all government sequestered newspapers, radio and television as part of his propaganda campaign," she said.

The Ramos camp, through the Krystal Research group, accused Santiago of "intellectual dishonesty," saying she claimed victory early in the counting based on unofficial returns from Metro Manila and Region 6 where she was expected to win.

Simeon Ventura, head of Krystal Research, said Santiago did not tell the public that the ABS-CBN [Alto Broadcasting System—Chronicle Broadcasting Network] tally where she was shown leading two days into the counting "consisted of 51 percent of votes from Metro Manila and 14 percent from Region 6, areas where we predicted she would win."

"If she is really intelligent, to insist that she had won based on this flawed premise would be intellectual dishonesty," he said.

Cojuangco also said leaders of the Iglesia Ni Cristo [Church of Christ; INC] reported incidents of vote-tampering in Lingayen town, particularly in precincts 20, 56 and 56-A in Barangay Libsong.

Cojuangco said he was credited with only one or two votes in the three precincts although INC members who supported him voted there.

Estrella said even if Ramos was the favored candidate of his provincemates, "he could not have gotten bloated tallies unless his supporters employed fraud in the counting and used governemnt resources to thwart the will of the electorate."

Estrella said in some of the big towns, the total votes counted for Ramos were "statistically impossible."

Election Registrars, Count Certificates Missing

HK0106061492 Quezon City MALAYA in English 31 May 92 p 3

[By Carlito Pablo]

[Text] Fourteen municipal election registrars in Lanao del Sur are missing and along with them the certificates of canvass from their towns, the Commission on Elections [Comelec] said yesterday.

Elections Chairman Christian Monsod said he has ordered Commissioner Haydee Yorac to investigate the matter.

Yorac, who was in Lanao del Sur yesterday to supervise the holding of special elections in four towns, identified three of the election registrars as Macapanto Mahom Salic of Madamba, Tandang Dimaampo Jr. of Balindong, and Bangsaan Umpi of Tubaran. She said she will recommend the suspension of the registrars.

Yorac said she has received reports that some candidates have threatened the registrars. "I want to confirm these (the threats) because they (the candidates) may be disqualified," she said.

Yorac said canvassing of votes in Lumba Bayabao and Sultan Gumander towns, identified as problematic areas, may be continued in Manila.

Sources said the Comelec national office also received reports that the missing officials were abducted by Moro National Liberation Front rebels.

Another report said the officials were bribed by an influential local politician to "lie low" until a trend in results from other towns has been clearly established, sources said. The registrars are then supposed to surface with the certificates to boost the chances of the candidate.

Commissioner Magdara Dimaampao said the absence of the 14 certificates will affect the outcome of the elections in the province and delay the proclamation of winning local candidates. Lanao del Sur has 37 towns.

Dimaampao said the Comelec has instructed the provincial board of canvassers to prepare a partial certificate of canvass for Lanao del Sur for the canvassing of national candidates by the Comelec and congress.

The Comelec earlier placed Lanao del Sur under its control due to its historical record of electoral fraud and violence.

Yesterday, special elections were held in Masiu, Butig, Bacolod Grande and Madalum towns and in some barangays of Marogong and Lumba Bayabao. Members of the board of election inspectors refused to report for poll duty last May 11.

The Comelec appointed soldiers as election inspectors in four precincts in Marogong when teachers deputized by the poll did not show up.

Shootout Mars Elections in Muslim Province

HK3105044892 Hong Kong AFP in English 0437 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Marawi, Philippines, May 31 (AFP)—A gun battle late Saturday [30 May] that resulted in one death marred the special elections conducted in four towns in this Muslim-dominated southern province of Lanao del Sur.

Supporters of rival presidential candidates—ex-defense secretary Fidel Ramos and House Speaker Ramon Mitra—clashed in the town of Madalum resulting in the death of one Ramos supporter and the wounding of a Mitra supporter, military officials said.

A grenade blast also hit the residence of Commission on Elections official Salic Dumarta in this city late Saturday resulting in slight damage but no injuries. Supporters of a losing candidate are suspected of being behind the attack, police said.

Special elections were held in four towns near Marawi on Saturday after the regular presidential, congressional and local elections were called off in these towns on May 11 due to the failure of election registrars to show up.

Many of the registrars had been intimidated by the private armies of local warlords who have long dominated politics in Lanao del Sur.

Elections Commissioner Haydee Yorac, who oversaw the special polls, resorted to extreme measures to safeguard the vote such as having armed troops serve as election officials in one town.

The counting of the votes was also conducted in a tightly-guarded state college in Marawi with Philippine Marines ordered not to allow any election registrars or documents to leave the area after canvassing had begun, Yorac said.

Aside from the violence that occured after the voting, the special elections in the four towns went on peacefully although there were numerous complaints about procedures. Almost 30,000 people were registered to vote in the four towns near this southern city.

Communists, RAM Plan 'No Proclamation' Campaign

HK3005022892 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Communist rebels and the Reform the Armed Forces Movement [RAM] are reportedly planning to launch a no proclamation campaign if administration candidate Fidel V. Ramos is proclaimed by Congress as the next president of the country. According to Superintendent Wilfredo Cruz, acting Philippine National Police [PNP] Intelligence Unit chief, the members of the Urban Mass Campaign Committee, the communist movement's primary unit which will spearhead the no proclamation campaign, have already dessiminated information to their various Metro Manila operatives regarding this move against Ramos. In light of this, PNP Chief Cesar Nazareno, has ordered the close monitoring of these two groups to thwart their evil plan to stop the proclamation.

Thailand

House Speaker To Delay Nomination of New Premier

BK0106111392 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1023 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] House Speaker Athit Urairat held a news conference, earlier scheduled to take place at 0900, this afternoon. He revealed the contents of the statement he issued to urge members of the House of Representatives to try to understand each other by adhering to His Majesty the King's advice, be responsible toward society, and refrain from branding themselves as members of the opposition or government blocs.

The house speaker denied as untrue the report that he would submit the name of a civilian to be nominated as the new prime minister. He stated that he would postpone the submission of the name for prime minister nomination until the constitutional amendments are completed, that is after 10 June.

[Begin Athit recording] I have to stop the trends toward a new round of confrontation by delaying the selection of the head of the administrative branch for a period of time to facilitate the constitutional amendment. I firmly believe that when that time comes, the House of Representatives will be able to find ways for improvement, and a constructive alternative for the country and the government will be able to lead the country to prosperity, bring about well-being for the people, and earn dignity in the international community for the country.

I wish to reiterate that today's news conference is aimed at safeguarding the Constitution we will have in the next few days and avoiding the repetition of the situaiton undersirable to the people in the entire country. We really hope that the government to come will be a government that can create hope and is responsible to the fraternal people. I wish to add that the report disseminated by the mass media that I would submit the name of a civilian for the royal approval for the prime minister nomination is untrue. I have never given any interview to that effect. [end recording]

Military Coup Feared at Delay of Nomination

BK2905112892 Hong Kong AFP in English 1115 GMT 29 May 92

[By Erskine McCullough]

[Text] Bangkok, May 29 (AFP)—Plans to name a new Thai prime minister Friday were put on hold following the intervention of one of the King's most senior advisors, as fears intensified of a backlash by the military against its critics.

Air Chief Marshal Sombun Rahong had been expected to be named premier until Privy Councillor General Prem Tinsulanon, himself a former prime minister and one of the most influential men in Thailand, said more time should be given to consider the replacement for Suchinda Khraprayun, who resigned in disgrace last weekend.

Prem, in a private meeting with House Speaker Athit Urairat, said the idea of putting forward Sombun as prime minister by the pro-military five party government coalition should be given very careful consideration.

The 60-year-old Sombun, head of the Chat Thai Party, is perceived as a front man for armed forces chief Kaset Rotchananin, and academics and political analysts fear his appointment could spark more street demonstrations.

"The minute that happened the military would have the excuse they needed to step in and stage a coup," said one academic on Friday.

The anger within the Army, smarting from the public condemnation of troops being used to shoot down pro-democracy supporters in the streets of the capital last week, spilled over in a hard hitting statement Thursday night.

"With our lives and spirits, we'll protect our superiors and the Army's honour. We will not let the Army's spirit be trampled upon anymore," the statement said.

This was followed up Friday by Kaset who claimed forces were at work to destroy the military and create chaos. He warned that the military was very bitter over the public anger against them.

There have been reports of soldiers being publicly humiliated and professors at Bangkok's Thammasat University recently announced that they would boycott lectures at military educational institutes.

The Army's statement, issued at a meeting presided over by Army chief Itsaraphong Nunphakdi of some 190 senior officers, sent the already rocky stock exchange plunging more than 27 points in less than the first hour of trading.

It later regained slightly to end the day 16 points down, but brokers said investors remained frightened by the military and the continued political instability.

Prem's intervention increased speculation that parliament may be dissolved next month and new general elections held in a bid to end the political crisis.

"There really is no other way and although nearly all the parties are opposed to such a move there is a growing realisation that dissolution is the only sensible course to take," said one Western diplomat.

However no decision is expected before June 10 when parliament meets for the third and final reading of changes to the Constitution which will greatly reduce the role of the military in politics.

"Once the constitutional changes are out of the way an election could be ordered," said an analyst.

If parliament were dissolved, analysts said it would help delay a decision on the legality of the amnesty protecting military leaders from prosecution over the shooting which left scores of people dead and hundreds wounded.

The amnesty, insisted on by Suchinda before he quit, has been described as a "time bomb."

Pro-democracy supporters want it lifted to allow Suchinda, Kaset and Itsaraphong to be prosecuted but any such moves are expected to be fought to the bitter end by the military.

Former foreign minister Asa Sarasin, a respected member of the interim government which took over after last year's bloodless coup, warned earlier this week that it would be dangerous to push the army too far.

Itsaraphong was quoted on Thursday as warning his opponents: "Don't force me into becoming a cornered dog."

Opposition chief General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, a fierce critic of the military after last week's bloodshed, refused Friday to back demands that Kaset and Itsaraphong should be forced to resign.

"We would not push for their resignation but it is their duty to show good faith. This would be another factor which would help end hostility between the military and the people," he said at a press conference at his party's headquarters.

Troops Recalled to Barracks; Coup Rumors Defused

BK3005012792 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 May 92 p 1

[Text] In a sudden about-face, the Army yesterday allayed fears of a possible coup d'etat over the weekend when it ordered all soldiers sent to suppress pro-democracy demonstrators during May 17-20 to return to their barracks.

Army spokesman Maj-Gen Chaturit Phromsakha na Sakon Nakhon, who enraged many television viewers by annoncing the pledge by senior Army officers to protect their boss, said all the troops used in the brutal crackdown on the pro-democracy protestors will be sent to help drought-stricken villagers.

He said that to spare the people from such worry and to uphold His Majesty the King's wish to see a compromise in the present political conflict, all Army units deployed at various spots in Bangkok will be recalled to their barracks.

"The Army will uphold the royal command for the country, religion and monarchy," Maj-Gen Chaturit said.

He denied the rumour circulating in government offices that a group of military officers planned to stage a coup d'etat this weekend in order to seize power.

The military mouthpiece also denied reports that the Army had sent reinforcements to Bangkok after the May 17-20 bloodshed.

He also denied any knowledge of reports that the Army ordered schools on its premises to close early yesterday.

Maj-Gen Chaturit told reporters that Army chief Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, commanders and soldiers felt deep remorse over the May 17-20 incident which led to many numerous deaths and injuries.

Gen Itsaraphong, he said, had informed the Army commanders during their meeting on Thursday about his sincere regret.

The Army will provide financial assistance as well to investigate the incident to make sure there will not be a recurrence, he said.

All soldiers involved in the incident will be pulled back to their original units to focus their attention on helping drought-stricken villagers in various regions of the country, he said.

Army Secretary-General's Office Chief-of-Staff Col Chongsak Phanitkun told reporters yesterday that Maj-Gen Chaturit was summoned to an urgent meeting with Gen Itsaraphong after he addressed a press conference on Thursday.

The Army chief felt the statement made by Maj-Gen Chaturit was more negative to the Army, Col Chongsak said and asked for advice from reporters on how the problem should be corrected.

Maj-Gen Chaturit later decided to address another press conference yesterday.

Meanwhile, frantic telephone calls flooded the Bangkok Post again yesterday from people who wanted to know whether another coup was in the making.

It was unclear how the rumour started but many callers were pointing to copies of leaflets which they said were faxed to their offices with a message that a group of military men may try to seize power.

One of the callers said they received a fax which stated that the coup would be staged at 9 a.m. today.

Supreme Command Issues 'Explanation' on Riot

BK3005075392 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 30 May 92 p 3

["Explanation of the Supreme Command Information Office on the riot in Bangkok"]

[Text] For the sake of correct understanding among soldiers, their families, relatives, and others concerned regarding the riot in Bangkok during 18-20 May, which resulted in a number of people being wounded and killed, the Supreme Command wishes to explain the following facts and make the following observations:

1. As the disturbance of peace in Bangkok escalated to destruction of government property and physical harm to policemen and soldiers, the Capital Security Command forces comprising forces of the Army, Navy, and Air Force had a legitimate duty to protect government property from further destruction.

2. The efforts to prevent the action of deliberate destroyers of such property resulted in confrontation that eventually required the use of arms, causing a number of people to be wounded or killed and leading to misunderstanding by mass media representatives and the people in general, including students and academics,

who believed the soldiers and policemen were excessively violent. It is a fact that soldiers and policemen employed step-by-step mob dispersion measures ranging from lenient to acute actions as instructed by their superiors to avoid all forms of violence.

3. The resulting losses amounted to an accident that occurred in the course of the operation because no one wanted it to happen. Now that these losses have happened, they constitute the most expensive lesson and everyone realizes this.

4. The situation mentioned above has strongly affected the military institution, because certain groups have exploited it to undermine the soldiers' honor and confidence and create hatred of soldiers among the people in all professions. The military institution has been treated with contempt. Some soldiers were beaten for no reason and had no means to defend themselves, causing a loss of morale to a degree among soldiers in general. This is a shameful undermining of unity within the nation that is very dangerous to the future of national security because once the military institution weakens and suffers from a loss of morale the country eventually suffers.

5. Soldiers in all units and branches of the armed forces wherever you are, please be informed that your superiors at every level are earnestly resolving the situation so that it will return to normal quickly. The superiors at all levels care for your safety and well-being and are aware of the psychological pressure affecting every soldier. They appeal to every soldier to be resolute in maintaining your honor and pride and exercise restraint to work together to resolve the existing problem. Every soldier must accept the fact that the military institution is overlooked in peacetime. This is reflected in King Rama VI's poem, which says:

The value of salt is evident when the soup is too bland; the value of a boat is evident when one needs to cross a river; the value of a gun is evident when one faces a tiger in the forest; and the value of soldiers is evident when the enemy approaches.

Foreign Minister Warns Army on Provocations

BK3005032392 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 May 92 p A2

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Phongphon Adireksan yesterday warned the Thai military to avoid provoking public sentiment, saying the announced "tough (military) policy" will scare off both Thais and foreigners.

The minister made the remarks after recent press reports quoted senior military officers in different military gatherings as indirectly warning the people, academics, and private prodemocracy agencies not to corner the military.

The public has for the past two weeks called for the legal prosecution of the military leaders responsible for the massacre of unarmed pro-democracy demonstrators.

Phongphon also mentioned that the international community is "closely" watching the political situation in Thailand "with concern" and that the European Community will next week meet to review its policy on Thailand.

He urged a "negotiated compromise" by all parties concerned and said any "morale boosting" meetings within the military institution should be held discreetly and not be publicized.

"The situation now requires a peaceful compromise. Military (leaders') morale boosting functions for their subordinates can be organized, but should be held within the military and not be made public as it will frighten and scare off both Thais and foreigners. I would like to plead with all parties to clearly understand the situation," said Phongphon. [passage omitted]

Phongphon said he was informed by British Under Secretary for Foreign Office Sir John Coles during their meeting yesterday that EC countries will meet next week to discuss and review their policy on Thailand.

He quoted the British guest as saying that the EC has been "closely" monitoring the political situation and developments in Thailand as "they could have a political impact and affect investment in Thailand."

The minister said he learned that several international financial lending institutions have placed Thailand in the "high risk" category, making it difficult for businessmen and investors to borrow money for investments here.

New loans will also require increased interest rates with many binding conditions, he added.

The EC countries, said Phongphon, want to see quick progress made towards democracy here and are pleased to see the parliamentary process moving to resolve the political crisis.

However, Sir Coles was interested to learn about the formation of a new government, possible peaceful solutions to the pro-democracy unrest—especially the legal process to bring those responsible for the violence to justice—and the establishment of a House ad hoc committee to investigate the whole incident according to Phongphon.

The foreign minister added that he has received reports from Thai embassies worldwide saying the international community was watching Thailand "with concern and goodwill" and it did not want to see the recurrence of public protests and the use of force to quell the mass rallies, as continued violence would only further hurt the country.

The reports also state that the world community wants to see the political situation here resolved through "peaceful means" based on "democratic principles".

Urges Forming Body To Repair Image

BK2905054592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 May 92 p 2

[Text] A national committee under the Foreign Ministry should be set up to coordinate efforts to repair the damage done to Thailand's reputation by last week's unrest, said acting Foreign Minister Phongpon Adireksan yesterday.

The panel would pool the resources of agencies such as the Board of Investment, the Tourism Authority of Thailand and the Export Promotions Department, to launch a worldwide public relations campaign to "rehabilitate" the country's image.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Sakthip Krairoek told a news conference yesterday that throughout the crisis and bloodshed, the Foreign Ministry had conveyed factual reports to Thai missions overseas.

"The first three days, the feedback was negative, as the events shocked the whole world," he said.

However, after the King's intervention ended the violence, Thailand had been better portrayed in the international media, and the situation has improved gradually with Gen Suchinda Khraprayun's resignation and the swift amendment of the Constitution, the spokesman added.

Mr Sakthip expressed confidence that steps towards democratisation would help patch up Thailand's reputation.

The ministry, he said, is asking its missions abroad how to pursue the public relations campaign.

"For tourists, we should emphasise that Thailand is safe and hotels are cheap," he said.

For investors, Thailand should seek to reasure them about its free market system, he added.

Today, Permanent Foreign Secretary Witthaya Wetchachiwa and other senior officials will brief members of the American Chamber of Commerce about the events here, said Mr Sakthip.

Michai Forms Special Panel To Probe Violence

BK3005052992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 May 92 p 3

[Text] Acting Prime Minister Michai Ruchupan yesterday appointed a 14-member fact-finding committee to investigate the May 17-20 protests and use of force by the Government against protesters.

The probe team, headed by Sophon Rattanakon, former president of the Supreme Court, comprises respected professionals such as Phaisit Phiphatthanakun, Phairot Ningsanon, Khunying Nongyao Chaiseri, Manit Suksomchit, Dr Pradit Charoenthaithawi, Chusak Sirinin Somphon Klinphongsa, Kanit na Nakhon, Gen Bancho Bunnayk, Sakthip Krairoek, Pol Lt-Gen Sanan Tuchinda, Pol Maj-Gen Wiwat Piyaphmuk and Pol Maj-Gen Sophon Warachanon.

The committee is authorised to find out the facts about the protests and any violations of law.

If any government officials are found to have broken the law or to have been negligent, the committee will recommend what action to take.

It will determine damage caused to life and property, and recommend measures to prevent a recurrence.

It may also recommend changes in laws regarding the declaration of a state of emergency and martial law as well as their enforcement.

It may summon officials to testify and to demand evidence for examination, and will receive cooperation from the police.

The committee will be dssolved once its findings reach the Cabinet.

Another fact-finding committee was set up by the Lower House on Thursday and will complete its probe within 45 days. It is made up of 44 MPs and an Army officer.

Meanwhile, the Samakkhi Tham Party has also set up a nine-member panel to investigate the shooting of pro-democracy protesters.

Party deputy leader Anuwat Watthanaphongsiri said yesterday that no Cabinet ministers are included in the team that will make their findings known to the people.

The commerce minister also gave assurances that the charter amendment drafts will be passed, adding that there should be no fear that the coalition parties will back off at the third reading which is scheduled for June 10.

Asked about the possibility of the Parliament being dissolved, Mr Anuwat said a prime minister must be first appointed to form a government.

If its statement policy to be delivered to Parliament was unacceptable, it will not be able to stay on.

He said the nomination of the prime minister now rests with House Speaker Athit Urairat and it should come through in a day or two.

Asked how the cabinet could be made to take joint responsibility for things that happen in the country, Dr Anuwat said that he believes one day the facts surrounding May 17-20 incidents will be clarified.

He said he should not be taken to task alone since there are nine major political parties in the House of Representatives.

"But believe me after June 10 when the charter amendments are passed, things will get better," Dr Anuwat said.

Asked when political parties will stop serving the military like slaves, Dr Anuwat said he alone could not do anything nor speak for all 360 MPs in Parliament.

"There will be a turning-point when things will have to change. They cannot go on this way," he said.

Asked how political parties will come out to protect the people following the Army's announcement yesterday that they would retaliate if their bosses were attacked, Dr Anuwat said nothing was happening at the moment but in the future there will be consultations with all sides before any action is taken.

Stresses Committee's Independence

BK2905142792 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Michai Ruchuphan, deputy prime minister and acting prime minister, reaffirmed that the committee in charge of investigation into the offences and damages occured during the rally from 17 to 20 May will be able to work freely. He said this to reporters after the issuance of the order appointing the said committee. He revealed that the committee is authorized only to find facts and clear evidence to prove who are wrongdoers and who should be held responsible for the incident for the government. The committee has no right or power to mete out punishment.

Michai also disclosed that the fact-finding committee can summon people concerned, including the former prime minister and senior military officers, for interrogation. The government gives the committee full freedom to do its work.

[Begin Michai recording] We must let the committee to work freely so that it can gather the facts for the government. Its operation will also benefit the country in the future because we will be able to amend the laws which give too much or too little power the authorities in dealing with rioters. [end recording]

Editorial Says Committees Powerless

BK3105053892 Bangkok THE NATION in English 31 May 92 p A9

[Editorial: "Fact-Finding Committees Just Paper Tigers"]

[Text] The scars and the bitter memories still remain within us. The carnage left behind by the 40,000 policemen and soldiers and the 150,000 rounds of ammunition they fired, is worse than the Bloody Sunday of Oct 14 in 1973 and the massacre at Thammasat on Oct 6, 1976.

Many potent lessons have been learnt from the seven days that shook Thailand. The pro-democracy protesters have accepted the fact that they have to live with the turbulent uncertainties of the ballot box for the time being, especially in circumstances where the tentacles of military domination have been spread far and wide in politics and business enterprises.

The Thai military on the other hand have found out that they must yield to mass opinion and have to surrender completely to the demands of human rights. Their role in the development of modern Thailand has been seriously questioned, and it has been clearly put forward that soldiers belong to the barracks and nowhere else. The old habits of generals schooled in the wisdom of authoritarian rule die hard, but they must nevertheless be given up eventually for the sake of the country.

A 14-member fact-finding committee was set up on Friday to investigate the human rights abuses committed by the authorities upon the pro-democracy protesters. According to Acting Prime Minister Michai Ruchuphan, the committee is authorized to find out the facts about the democracy rally and the May 17-20 bloodshed.

The committee has also been mandated to:

—Determine whether any government officials, police and military officers had broken the law or had been negligent, and recommend what action to take.
—Determine the damage caused to life and property, and recommend measures to prevent such a recurrence.
—Recommend changes in laws regarding the declaration of a state of emergency and martial as well as their enforcement.
—Summon officials to testify and seek evidence for examination with cooperation from all parties concerned.

Meanwhile, another fact-finding committee was set up by the House of Representatives on Thursday to probe the bloody suppression of pro-democracy protesters. The House's panel has 49 members and included in the committee are several leading pro-democracy leaders, individuals and also military men.

Though the 14-member panel and the 49-member fact-finding committee have been set up with honourable intentions, a glaring fact remains: both can invite anybody to testify at the hearings but have no power to force those who do not want to testify to be present because they do not have any legal status. This stems from the fact that they have not been formed by an act of Parliament.

For the 14-member panel, the committee will be dissolved once its findings reach the Cabinet. In the case of the 49-member House committee, it will cease to exist if the House is dissolved or after it completes its task.

What can we conclude from here? Clearly both the panel and the House committee are paper tigers that will not be able to initiate any legal action against the perpetrators of the crime against the people. Just like the Poll Watch Commission couldn't unseat any MPs though it had compiled a great deal of evidence showing they bought votes and cheated to win in the March 22 general election. When blatant violations against the Election Act were pointed out by the commission, no one cared two hoots about them. When the commission volunteers went a bit too far in their investigations, they were threatened by the powers-that-be.

Certain military commanders ordered the use of unprecedented violence against unarmed Thai people without the warning of tear gas and only a brief use of water-cannons. More than a hundred men, women and children have died in the pro-democracy protests, and more than a thousand have been wounded by the excessive use of force.

A fact-finding team from the Geneva-based International Commission of Jurists has pointed out that the human rights abuses committed against the people by the Thai military were just too numerous for a single mission to compile and verify. The team also said it had received reports that bodies of dead pro-democracy demonstrators had been quickly taken away by military trucks and dumped elsewhere or just burnt in certain "secret places".

On Thursday, the Foreign Ministry launched a public relations campaign to repair Thailand's image overseas tarnished by the brutality against the Thai protesters on Ratchadamnoen Ave. It is impossible to ask the world to forget the blood-letting and forgive the Thai police and military for the "regrettable accident." The only way to repair the Thai image in the eyes of the world community is to find out those directly responsible for the killings and bring them to justice.

The public demand for justice for the innocent lives lost during the May 17-20 crisis in Bangkok is not a campaign against the military. The public outcry is against the few individual generals who ordered troops to fire on unarmed protesters and not at the military establishment itself. On the other hand, Supreme Commander ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Kaset Rotchananin for reasons best known to himself, has expressed no remorse whatsoever and keeps maintaining that there is a systematic smear campaign being directed against the armed forces, arousing public hatred against them with the aim to instigate another riot.

It would perhaps do good for ACM Kaset to pay heed to Assistant Commissioner of the Central Investigation Bureau, Pol Maj Gen Uthai Assawawilai's comments on Friday that "military leaders should set aside their arrogance and listen to the people."

All concerned parties now realize that the solution to the bloody deadlock lies not in the streets of Bangkok, but in Parliament. The winds of democracy are blowing through Thailand scattering seeds of change. It is now up to us to nurture those seeds by promoting a civilian government that could prove itself more capable of running the country than the military.

Acting Prime Minister Favors House Dissolution

BK0106012392 Bangkok THE NATION in English 1 Jun 92 p A1

[Excerpt] Acting Prime Minister Michai Ruchuphan said yesterday that a House dissolution would be the best solution to the political impasse stemming from public opposition to the coalition which has been partly blamed for the killing of pro-democracy protesters. The coalition, which supported ex-prime minister Suchinda Khraprayun, has nominated Chat Thai Party leader Sombun Rahong to head the next government.

House Speaker Athit Urairat said he would be granted an audience with His Majesty the King today to present the House majority's choice as prime minister for royal endorsement. Although Athit would not name the nominee, it was understood he meant Sombun, who retired from the military with the rank of air chief marshal to enter politics.

The Samakkhi Tham Party announced on Friday that Sombun's nomination had been submitted to the Office of His Majesty's Principal Private Secretary which would schedule the audience. The House speaker said the audience was scheduled for 4 pm after which he would hold a press conference at Parliament.

Meanwhile, the Student Federation of Thailand (SFT), which was at the forefront of rallies against Suchinda, called for the House of Representatives to be dissolved after constitutional amendments are passed.

On June 10 Parliament is expected to pass the final readings of constitutional amendments aimed at reducing military influence over politics and which will require the prime minister to be an elected MP.

Michai, who has been acting prime minister since Suchinda was forced to resign following the May 17-20 massacre, said the House should be dissolved and a general election be called after the amendments are passed.

"The House majority should be allowed to form a government and nominate the new prime minister," Michai said. "But now that we don't like that way, the only way out is to go back to the people—let the people choose again."

Pro-democracy groups have threatened more rallies if the government coalition forms the next administration.

Michai repeated he was empowered as acting prime minister to dissolve the House. However, he would listen to both the coalition and Opposition before making a final decision on any House dissolution, he said.

"All parties should cooperate in forming the government. But if they fail to set up the new administration, the House should be dissolved to pave the way for a new election after the constitutional amendments," Michai said. "They should tell me if they cannot reach any agreement," the acting prime minister said.

Michai was commenting on growing public opposition to the coalition's attempts to form a government. The pro-democracy groups hold the government coalition of the Sammakkhi Tham, Chat Thai, Social Action, Prachakon Thai and Ratsadon parties partly responsible for the killing of pro-democracy protesters. The groups urged the coalition to refrain from forming a government to show its responsibility for the killings which followed its decision to bow to the military's demand and allow Suchinda to become a non-elected prime minister.

Following much criticism that it had lost its legitimacy to govern the country, the coalition brought in the one-MP Puangchon Chaothai Party as a new partner but to no avail.

The growing opposition to the coalition's attempts to form a government has apparently led to a political impasse.

The Opposition has so far failed to garner enough support in the House to form a majority government. [passage omitted]

Coalition Party Chief Resigns

BK3105020492 Bangkok THE NATION in English 31 May 92 p A1

[Text] Prachakon Thai leader Samak Sundarawet will withdraw from the new ruling Cabinet and quit the top party post as a show of responsibility for its sagging popularity, sources told THE NATION.

Samak informed the party committee of his decision to withdraw from the Cabinet. Executives then resolved they would accept only the post of deputy premier in the new Cabinet to be led by Chat Thai leader ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sombun Rahong. Deputy secretary general Yingphan Manasikan will be nominated to the post.

The coalition partners have agreed to allocate two Cabinet posts to the party.

The executive committee ruled out the option of pulling out altogether because it could be accused by the partners of letting them down and trying to sink the boat.

But Prachakon Thai has to demonstrate its political spirit to voters, particularly those in Bangkok, the sources said, adding that Samak had tried unsuccessfully to oppose the nomination of Gen Suchinda Khraprayun as prime minister.

Grenade Thrown at Coalition Party Office; 1 Hurt

BK3105014192 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 May 92 p 3

[Text] A hand grenade exploded near the Social Action Party [SAP] headquarters in Dusit district on Friday night, injuring one man and slightly damaging the building.

Special Branch Police commander Yothin Mathayomman said the incident took place about 15 minutes after midnight when a high explosive grenade was hurled into the SAP premises in Soi Ongkharak off Samsen Road.

The grenade exploded near the right side of the office building. The explosion caused a hole about 12 centimetres deep. The building was also pocked with shrapnel marks.

Shrapnel also went through the wooden wall of a nearby house, injuring the occupant, Warrant Officer Banchong Kasoe.

Thawiwut Siprasong, a police security guard at the SAP office, reported the incident to Samsen police station.

A number of police led by acting Metropolitan Police commissioner Maj-Gen Narong Rianthong rushed to the scene.

Preliminary investigation revealed only that the grenade was hurled by a pillion passenger on a motorcycle.

Pol Maj-Gen Yothin said the attack could have been politically motivated because the SAP was at present in a questionable position while the government and opposition parties jockeyed to form a new coalition.

Although the five government parties have reaffirmed that their alliance is solid, the SAP which is one of the five has admitted that they have been approached to join the Opposition.

Pol Maj-Gen Yothin said the attack might be the work of those who were dissatisfied with SAP leader Montri Phongphanit's interview concerning the formation of a new government.

Mr Montri was not available for comment yesterday.

SAP MP Somsak Thepsuthin said at Parliament yesterday that the attack might be politically motivated.

He said during the past few days the SAP office had been bombarded with threats, indicating that the callers were disappointed with the party's political stand.

However, Mr Somsak was confident the grenade attack was intended only as a threat.

"Who knows? The attack might have been made because the party has decided to stick by the five-party alliance," he said.

Daily Focuses People's Anger on Military Leaders

BK3005040192 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 May 92 p A6

[Editorial: "Honourable Soldiers and the People Are on the Same Side"]

[Text] The plight of military personnel from the strong public condemnation of the massacre of anti-Suchinda demonstrators in Bangkok during May 17-20 has largely been exaggerated. Let's make one simple but crucial point absolutely clear: The people have no quarrel with the military.

But the people opposed the undemocratic intervention of some military leaders in national politics. They protested and demanded the resignation of ex-Army chief

Gen Suchinda Khraprayun from the premiership because they abhorred the illegitimate scheming of Suchinda and his influential military cohorts against Thailand's parliamentary democracy.

Suchinda and a few other Army generals plotted and staged the coup to topple the Chatchai administration on February 23, 1991. Their excuses were to stop rampant corruption in the elected government and stop harmful interference of politicians in military affairs. But in fact their primary motive was clearly to consolidate control in all military branches and prepare to systematically dominate national politics with political parties and a powerful Senate under their control.

The February 23 coup seriously tarnished Thailand's reputation as a prosperous, democratic country and damaged the Thai military's honour for resorting to force without any acceptable justification. Yet no military officers outside Suchinda's clique dare to raise their voice in public. Their collective silence implied their tacit approval of the coup and the subsequent scheming by Suchinda and friends. If they truly treasure their military honour, they should hold Suchinda and his backers in the military accountable for the damage. But don't blame the people. The people have done nothing wrong; they are the defenders of democracy, not the enemy of the military.

The people are angry with a few military leaders, particularly Army Commander Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi and First Army Region Commander Lt Gen Chainarong Nunphakdi because they were directly responsible for unleashing their troops on the unarmed demonstrators. The people also blame the bloodshed on Supreme Commander, Air Force Commander ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Kaset Rotchananin because he officially oversaw the crackdown in his capacity as director of the National Peacekeeping Command. These senior officers were instrumental in installing Suchinda as the premier against the wishes of the people.

ACM Kaset and Gen Itsaraphong were directly involved in forming the Suchinda Cabinet. ACM Kaset even sent his deputy, ACM Anan Kalintha, to hold the powerful post of interior minister. What business did these military leaders have in civilian politics anyway?

ACM Kaset and Gen Itsaraphong now are telling his men they "should be proud of the mission" successfully executed in quelling the unrest and protecting state property during the mayhem on Ratchadamnoen Ave. All soldiers are also told to rally around the cause of military honour and defend it with their "lives and souls," and in the process shield the two top commanders from being held accocuntable for the bloodshed.

Worse still, Army radio programmes are trying to whip up hysteria about the people turning hostile toward the military personnel because of numerous sinister rumours spread by the omnipotent "third hand." Indeed many people now pay more attention to rumours because they distrust the government and the military's electronic media. During the crisis the electronic media were full of propaganda against the demonstrators and lies about the real situation.

Now many people are ready to believe the rumours that more than 8,000 people were slaughtered by the soldiers during the bloodshed and most of the bodies were secretly buried in military compounds outside Bangkok. So far the confirmed death toll remained under 60 with about 800 still missing.

The Army has volunteered its full cooperation to probe any suspected mass grave. Yet the rumours remain in circulation.

This is largely due to the lack of credibility of the Army and its mouthpieces to dispel the rumours quickly, but certainly not because of any sinister plot of any "third hand" to divide the people from the military. Continued exaggeration of public hostility toward the military is nothing but another propaganda ploy to rally all military personnel to defend a few top commanders who are in hot water because their scheming with Suchinda has failed and their crackdown on the demonstrators has backfired.

The people are now more determined to press for a real return of parliamentary democracy so that those killed on Ratchadamnoen Ave would not have died in vain. All honourable soldiers have nothing to fear from the people. They should examine the crisis with an open mind in order to find out which side is lying and which side is telling the truth.

Most importantly all honourable soldiers must join the people in thwarting any attempt at staging another coup. Neither military honour nor national security is in jeopardy. But the military careers of ACM Kaset and Gen Itsaraphong are on the line because they are trying to suppress the truth.

And the truth is the people won't tolerate illegitimate military intervention in national politics any longer.

Vietnam

Hanoi Reviews Relations With U.S., MIA Issue

BK3005150992 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 29 May 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] Of late, U.S.-Vietnamese relations have made positive steps. Here is our commentator's assessment of this development:

Since October last year, Vietnam and the United States have exchanged a number of reciprocal visits. Following the trip to Vietnam by the U.S. Government delegation led by Assistant Secretary of State Richard Solomon, Vietnam has received the delegation of the U.S. Senate's Special Committee led by Senator John Kerry, who is also chairman of the committee. Most recently are the American guests including the delegations of the American War Veterans and USAID [U.S Agency for International Development]. For its part, Vietnamese deputy foreign minister has attended a seminar on Vietnam in Virginia.

Through these visits and working sessions, the two sides have got to know each other better and affirmed the will to solve the outstanding problems, including the MIA issue, to proceed to normalization of relations.

Back from their visits to Vietnam, the American guests all recognized that Vietnam cooperated very well in efforts to solve the MIA in the Vietnam War.

For its part, Vietnam affirmed that it has been and will be doing its best to solve this humanitarian issue.

Meanwhile, the United States has lifted its ban on American tourists to Vietnam as well as the 15-mile travel limit imposed on Vietnamese diplomats in the United States. Also recently, the U.S. Government has allowed the U.S. telecommunications company to set up telephone contacts with Vietnam. The U.S. has also (?renounced) some financial restrictions which had been imposed on Vietnam for 17 years, allowing American sales to Vietnam of such products as food, medicine, and agricultural products.

However, the steps taken by the Bush administration have been too slow and not yet met the aspirations of the American and Vietnamese peoples. On 19 May, Mr. [Senator] Bob Smith, vice chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on MIA Issues, criticized the so-called road map policy pursued by the U.S. Government in the process of normalizing relations with Vietnam. Mr. Bob Smith described the road map policy as unconstructive. Another American, Ms. [Virginia] Foote, director of the U.S.-Vietnam Trade Council, held that the U.S. has lost many business opportunities with Vietnam because many other countries have ignored the U.S. embargo by doing business with Vietnam.

MIA Specialists Meet

BK3005151792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Vietnamese and U.S. specialists held a regular working session in Hanoi on 28 and 29 May 1992. The two sides unanimously and highly appraised those results obtained in their 17th joint search. They approved a plan for conducting their 18th joint search, beginning mid-June 1992.

The U.S. side expressed their gratitude to the government and people of Vietnam, from the central down to the local levels, for their humanitarian cooperation in the past—which was especially reflected in the visit of Senator Kerry and in the 17th joint search—and affirmed its absolute respect for Vietnamese sovereignty and security.

On 1 June 1992, a representative of Vietnam's Office for Missing Personnel will hand over 10 sets of remains of American soldiers reportedly killed during the war and their personal items found during the 17th joint search.

Since March 1974, Vietnam has, on 37 occasions, turned over a total of 474 sets of remains to the U.S. side.

Further on Remains

BK0106103992 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Vietnam, on Monday [1 June], returned to the United States the remains of 10 more American servicemen killed during the Vietnam war.

This latest delivery is the 37th made so far and brings to 474 the number of cases. The remains, together with personal belongings, will be flown to the U.S. Army's Central Identification Laboratory, in Hawaii.

The 18th search, according to Colonel Jack Donovan, head of the U.S. MIA Office in Hanoi, will include an excavation of air crash sites in Quang Binh and Quang Tri in central Vietnam and Phu Yen in the south.

Army Paper Views U.S. Global Strategy

BK2905083992 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 22 May 92

[Article by Phan Doan Nam in "recent" issue of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN: "The United States With Its New Global Strategy"]

[Text] The disintegration of the Soviet Union as a superpower has been the most important event in the final decade of the 20th century. From now on, the United States will monopolize the superpower role in the world. For the United States, the point is how to promptly readjust its strategy so as to assume this task.

It is hard to provide a clear-cut assessment of the new U.S. strategy in the post-cold war era. However, through the debates now taking place in the United States during the presidential election campaign and also through revelations by the press, one may begin to understand the main direction of U.S. foreign strategy in the new era.

First, it should be pointed out that although the collapse of the Soviet Union has caught the United States by surprise, evidently it has come as a windfall for the United States. Today, the majority of resolutions sponsored by the United States and the West have been passed by the UN Security Council with overwhelming votes in favor of the resolutions. However, the other side to this advantage is that the crumbling of the Soviet Union has also caused much embarrassment to the United States. The United States has not yet been able to anticipate the course of development of the situation in the former Soviet states. The huge nuclear arsenal of the former Soviet Union is still there, and it is the only arsenal capable of destroying an area many times larger than the United States. How will the problems this arsenal poses be resolved? Will the former Soviet states allow the United States to take away or neutralize their nuclear arsenal? How long will the crisis in the former Soviet states last?

Secondly, during the cold war, the United States used the image of the Soviet Union as a menacing ghost to force the U.S. Congress to pass huge military budgets and to pressure its allies into giving economic concessions in exchange for U.S. nuclear military protection. Is this factor still valid today?

Third, for those developing countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, the United States has over the past nearly five decades used the signboard of opposing the expansion of the Soviet communists as a means to intervene militarily in various countries in the world, and to support the dictatorial military regimes in these countries. Is the United States now still able to use this signboard to oppose smaller countries? Finally, is the United States still strong enough to spread its force thinly throughout the world to allegedly protect the free world?

The above are a number of major issues now being raised for the powers-that-be in the White House to consider prior to coming up with a new strategy. The United States' foremost objective is to struggle to unfailingly maintain a single superpower world, so a major goal is to prevent the comeback of a new enemy—either in the former Soviet territories or in other areas—as this may create a menace like the one the Soviet Union had posed for the United States. To achieve this aim, the United States believes that it should first deal with Russia and prevent the potential reinstallment of a Soviet Union hostile to the United States, as in the past. The fact that the United States is striving to neutralize the nuclear arsenal of the former Soviet Union, including each republic in the Community of Independent States, is no coincidence. The United States is afraid that if Russia, irrespective of its ideological affiliations, becomes economically strong and continues to maintain its existing nuclear arsenal, the chances of the United States remaining the sole superpower will be very slim. Apart from this, the rapid economic growth of Germany and Japan has caused a headache for the United States.

Although in the present era where capitalist production has been internationalized on as a large scale as it is today, the interdependency of developed capitalist countries is so high that no one country dares to risk taking any unilateral action for the sake of its own interest at the expense of its rival, which would trigger the downfall of the world economy. However, this does not mean that the United States can dare to overlook the competitive power of Japan and Germany, especially at a time when Japan and Germany are harboring ambitions to bring their global political roles up to par with their economic strengths. This is the very reason that people have not been surprised to find out that the United States is not very impressed with the proposal made by certain countries to expand the composition of the UN Security Council, particularly to accept Japan and Germany as additional permanent members of the UN Security Council.

The PRC is now a permanent member of the UN Security Council. Although it is classified as an economically developing country, within 10 to 12 years time, the PRC's stature will become a matter of concern for the United States. However, we should admit the fact that in the next five to 10 years, no countries will be able to challenge the current position of the United States. For the United States, the problem to be faced is how to develop the power of this position. Of course, the United States cannot follow the course it adopted in the 1950s and 1960s. The United States will not be able to develop this course, and the world's people, including U.S. allies, will never favor this move, nor will they allow the United States to do this. Given this situation, the main course of U.S. strategy is to achieve its global supremacy through multilateral mechanisms, especially through the United Nations and other multilateral organizations such as the G-7 Group, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the like.

Through the incidents involving Iraq and Lybia, one clearly sees that the United States is trying to make full use of the UN mechanism, especially its own role in the UN Security Council. This does not mean that the United States' actions will depend only on the United Nations, should UN resolutions run counter to U.S. designs.

THE NEW YORK TIMES quotes an official of the Bush administration openly saying that the United States will be ready to work within the framework of the United Nations. But it will also be ready to resort to other options if necessary in order to protect its vital interests.

The United States has become the world's most powerful superpower since the Second World War—for the 20 years following the war, to be precise. The Soviet Union only attained a strategic military balance with the United States in the early 1970s. Economically, the Soviet Union only attained half of the success of the United States. It was from this absolute superiority that the United States had raised the slogan "go anywhere necessary, fight any enemies," and that U.S. Pesident Johnson had come up with a program to build the United States into a great society. But it is due to its wrongful policies originating in the dream of becoming an international gendarme that the United States has gone from one setback to another. Indeed, during the 1970s, many U.S. leaders had to admit that the United States had become only a second-class superpower.

Currently, the United States has once again emerged as the sole superpower. However, even if the Soviet Union is no longer a superpower, the balance of forces no longer posits an absolute advantage for the United States, just as in the 1950s and 1960s. In today's world, many competitive centers of power are developing. Will they not challenge the United States' new hegemonism?

Currently, the United Nations is an organization made up of nearly 170 independent and sovereign countries.

This is a reality to be reckoned with by the United States when it comes to working out its policies. The only way for the United States to avoid once again plunging itself into a crisis and falling into a condition where its force does not match its ambition is to pursue the path of peaceful coexistence with all nations, irrespective of size or political system—the path that was jointly developed with the United States itself as seen in the Atlantic Charter and the UN Charter.

U.S. $1 Billion Investment for Ho Chi Minh City

BK2905081292 Hanoi VNA in English 0650 GMT 29 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 29—Ho Chi Minh City has so far been granted 171 licences with a total investment capital of one billion U.S. dollars, including a prescribed capital of 514 million.

In the first four months of this year the city received 31 licences with a total investment capital of 232 million USD.

The industrial sector won 91 licences. Most of the investment projects are joint ventures, including 15 projects with 100 percent foreign investments. The Tan Thuan and Linh Trung processing zones are among the major projects licensed so far.

The city is encouraging foreign investments in the develepment of information and telecommunications, electronics and informatics, precision engineering and bio-technology.

Work began on the reconstruction of the sat [as received] market in the port city of Haiphong on May 25. The project is invested with more than USD 7 million, to which the Haiphong Construction Service Centre contributed 27 percent and the Heng Fa Company Ltd. of Pang Cheng Port (Guangxi, China) 73 percent.

The new sat market will be a 4-storey building with a flooring space of 39,824 square metres.

NHAN DAN Hails Success of Nonaligned Movement

BK3005071092 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 20 May 92

[From the daily press review program]

[Text] NHAN DAN today carries an article by Le Ba Thuyen entitled: "The Nonaligned Movement Strengthens Its Solidarity for Peace, Independence, and Development." The article says: The foreign ministerial conference of the Nonaligned Movement's Coordination Committee in Bali, Indonesia, on 14-16 May concluded with a splendid success. The conference asserted the movement's stand on a number of pressing international issues, prepared an agenda for the Nonaligned Movement's 10th Summit Conference to be held in Jakarta in September 1992, reasserted fundamental principles and objectives of the movement, and set the movement's future orientations.

The participation of all member countries and the presence of many observers, distinguished guests, and representatives of regional and international organizations at the Bali conference, as well as the admittance of Guatemala and Papua New Guinea as full members of the movement—bringing the total membership to 105 countries—indicate that the movement is consistently developing and its significant role in the world is enhanced.

The article analyzes swift and complicated changes in the international situation and stresses tasks of the Nonaligned Movement in the new stage to ensure success for the movement, especially in fulfilling its objectives of strengthening solidarity among member countries.

Stressing the conference's common views, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, head of the SRV delegation said: Nonaligned countries can effectively develop the activities of the movement if they sucessfully strengthen solidarity and unanimity among member countries. The movement's firm solidarity will provide strength to oppose foreign pressure, threats, interference, and imposition. With its efforts to strengthen unity and promote peaceful negotiations on the basis of equality and mutual interests, the Nonaligned Movement will undoubtedly be able to enhance its influence in the struggle for peace, independence, development, and a just and rational new world order on our planet.

Joint Venture With Hong Kong Taxi Company

BK2805075992 Hanoi VNA in English 0624 GMT 28 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 28—Vinataxi, a joint venture in taxi service between the Vietnam Corporation of Investment, Communications and Transport (TRACODI) and the Cobest Investment Limited of Hongkong has been licensed.

The joint venture has a proscribed capital of USD one million of which 20 percent will be contribvuted by TRACODI and the rest by the Hong Kong partner.

In the first phase, Vinataxi will run 30 [word indistinct] 60 tourist cars and coaches. It also provides tourists with nationwide transport by 25-45 seat coaches.

Fifty-Six Investment Projects Licensed

BK2805080492 Hanoi VNA in English 0633 GMT 28 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 28—The State Committee for Cooperation and Investment in the first four months of this year granted licences to 56 foreign investment projects with a total capital of 480 million US dollars.

The seven biggest projects were capitalised at 332 million US dollars, accounting for more than 69 percent of the total capital.

Worthy of note are a product-sharing contract on oil and gas exploration and exploitation on lot 10 in the Bach Ho oil field offshore southern Vietnam with the Shell Company of Holland capitalised at 79 million US dollars, a joint venture to establish a motorcycle assembling and manufacturing enterprise with the Chinh Fong Investment of Taiwan which contributed the whole capital of 55.5 million US dollars, a 43-million USD beer joint venture between Tien Giang province and France, and a Taiwanese-invested project on banana growing in Ho Chi Minh City with a capital of 33 million US dollars.

Since the promulgation of law on foreign investment in late 1987, 421 foreign investment projects capitalised at 3,190 million US dollars have been approved.

State Council Appoints New Ministers

BK2905140792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 29 May 92

[Communique of the Council of State]

[Text] The Council of State met on 26-27 and the afternoon of 28 May 1992 under the direction of Chairman Vo Chi Cong.

1. The council heard a report by the chief justice of the Supreme People's Court on the draft law on the organization of people's courts, another report by the chief prosecutor of the Supreme People's Organ of Control on the draft law on the organization of people's organs of control, and the views of the Judiciary Committee and other organs concerned on these two draft laws.

The formulation of the draft law on the organization of people's courts and the draft law on the organization of people's organs of control has been based on the provisions of the 1992 Constitution and the experiences drawn from the past activities of people's courts and people's organs of control to meet the need to renovate the organizations and enhance the efficiency of people's courts and people's organs of control.

The council gave its opinion and entrusted the National Assembly Judiciary Committee, the Supreme People's Court, the Supreme People's Organ of Control, and the Ministry of Justice with the task of continuing efforts to perfect these two draft laws before submitting them to the first session of the ninth National Assembly.

2. The council studied the draft regulations on public health care insurance presented by a representative of the Council of Ministers. After hearing an investigative report by the Public Health Care and Social Services Committee, as well as the views of the National Assembly Judiciary Committee, the council maintained that given the need to renovate the economic management mechanism at present and for the sake of humanity, social justice, and the people's health, it is necessary to implement a public health care insurance program aimed at mobilizing the contributions of people of all walks of life to improve the quality of medical care and treatment. However, because public health care insurance is new to our country, the Council of Ministers and other National Assembly committees concerned should continue making efforts to conduct more pilot projects, draw experiences, and solicit the opinions of the people as well as of all sectors and echelons to perfect the aforementioned draft regulations.

3. On the recommendations of the Council of Ministers and after hearing the investigative reports by the National Assembly Foreign Relations Committee and Judiciary Committee, the council decided on our country's participation in the Vienna Charter on Consular Affairs. The charter reflects the actual consular services of the various nations, as well as other international customs and practices in this domain. Our country's participation in the Vienna Charter would create conditions for us to broaden our consular affairs with other countries in the world, thus contributing to promoting economic, trade, communications and transportation, tourist, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation with those countries.

4. The council was briefed on the results of an official friendship visit to our country from 3 to 9 May 1992 by an Indonesian National Assembly delegation led by His Excellency Mohamad Kharis Suhud, chairman of the People's Consultative Assembly and speaker of the House of Representatives. The council welcomed and highly valued the fine results of the visit, which had contributed to strengthening the solidarity, friendship, and multifaceted cooperation between the two National Assemblies and peoples.

5. The council was briefed by Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien, special envoy of the Council of State chairman, on the results of his visit to Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Oman, Tunisia, and Palestinian president and PLO President [as heard] 'Arafat from 21 April to 9 May 1992. The council welcomed and agreed with the special envoy's activities aimed at strengthening the friendly and cooperative ties between our country and the aforementioned nations.

6. The council decided to award the Gold Star Order to Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, adviser to the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee, and Comrade Vo Chi Cong, adviser to the CPV Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State, for the great meritorious services they have rendered to the revolutionary cause of our party and people.

7. On the recommendations of the Council of Ministers chairman, the council made the following decisions:

—appoint Comrade Nguyen Dinh Lap, deputy director of the Office of the National Assembly and the Council of State, to the post of minister of justice, replacing Comrade Phan Hien;

—appoint Comrade Ho Tu, deputy minister of finance, to the post of minister of finance, replacing Comrade Hoang Quy; and,

—appoint Comrade Mai Ky, deputy director of the Council of State Planning Committee, to the post of minister in charge of population and family planning.

8. On the recommendations of the Council of Ministers, the council decided to appoint our country's ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary to a number of countries.

9. On the recommendations of the chief justice of the Supreme People's Court, the council decided to appoint a number of judges to the Supreme People's Court and high-level martial courts.

Pham Van Dong on Beauty of Ho Chi Minh Thought

BK2805085392 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 19 May 92

[From the press review]

[Text] NHAN DAN frontpages an article entitled "Ho Chi Minh and the Vietnamese People" by Comrade Advisor Pham Van Dong. The article says: Generally speaking, Ho Chi Minh thought reflects the late president's thinking, sentiments, ethics, and lifestyle. It is a source of strength for meeting the requirements of the situation and for developing the potentialities of the Vietnamese people and nation.

Vietnamese are well known for their vitality, wisdom, and creativeness. They have always remained self-assertive and have upheld the determination to love the nation and socialism and to work toward the goal of making the people rich and the nation powerful. At the same time, they have been very active in developing their personal characters, strengths, and fine traditions. The self-assertiveness of each individual person is linked with the high determination of the nation as a whole. The Vietnamese people are determined to struggle for independence and freedom and persist in the path of socialist construction based on Vietnam's national colors, because this path will create conditions, opportunities, and ways and means for each individual person and the nation as a whole to make constant progress.

The renovation undertaking has made its presence felt in all aspects of life at present. It is consistent with the inclination of the Vietnamese people and nation toward self-assertiveness, development, and perfection.

In applying Ho Chi Minh thought to the present conditions, our people will certainly make a cherished dream of many Vietnamese generations come true: to build a social system as good as any other social systems in the world. This system conforms with the inevitable long-term trend of development of the hidden course of history, which may undergo various methods and forms of growth, but will ultimately lead to the socialist regime, under which each individual person's right to unlimited and full development provides the basis for everyone to reach that same goal.

In commemorating Ho Chi Minh's 102d birthday, let us broaden our view to have a better understanding of the Vietnamese people, historical events, and the era based on Uncle Ho's great thought.

Get-Together for Revolutionary Fighters Held

BK2805082392 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 19 May 92

[Text] This afternoon [19 May] in Hanoi, the Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF] Central Committee organized a cordial get-together with those revolutionary fighters who survived after having been put on death row by the enemy for their anti-U.S.-puppet activities. The revolutionary fighters are now paying a visit to the Ho Chi Minh mausoleum and Hanoi on the occasion of Uncle Ho's 102d birthday.

Attending the get-together were Comrade Le Quang Dao, member of the VFF Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the National Assembly; Comrade Pham Van Kiet, vice president and concurrently secretary general of the VFF Central Committee; Comrade Tran Van Phat, member of the VFF Central Committee Presidium; and representatives of mass organizations, departments, and sectors at the central level and in Hanoi.

On behalf of the VFF Central Committee, Comrade Tran Van Phat expressed his emotions and profound admiration for the revolutionary fighters who had firmly maintained their revolutionary will during those days of harsh national defense struggle.

Speaking on this occasion, the comrade revolutionary fighters expressed their deep sentiments and great honor to visit Uncle Ho at his mausoleum on the very occasion of his birthday. They related stories about their combat activities during those days of harsh anti-U.S. struggle and reasserted their determination to preserve their candid revolutionary ethics.

Pham The Duyet Meets Former Fighters

BK2905093592 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 21 May 92

[Text] On the afternoon of 21 May at the city people's committee headquarters, the Hanoi City party committee, people's council, people's committee, and Fatherland Front committee organized a cordial get-together with a delegation of 24 southern revolutionary fighters who survived after having been put on death row by the enemy. The delegation is paying a visit to the Ho Chi Minh mausoleum and Hanoi on the occasion of Uncle Ho's 102d birthday and the 45th War Invalids and Fallen Combatants' Day.

Attending the get-together were Comrade Pham The Duyet, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the city party committee; Comrade Pham Loi, chairman of the city people's council; Comrade Le At Hoi, chairman of the city people's committee; Professor Pham Khac Quang, chairman of the city fatherland front committee; and representatives of local departments and sectors.

On behalf of the city party organizations and people, Comrade Pham The Duyet warmly welcomed the delegation and expressed the very warm sentiments of the city party organizations and people toward the delegation. He expressed the hope that the delegation's visit would end in success.

On behalf of the delegation, after expressing everyone's delight at their visit to the capital and to Uncle Ho' mausoleum, and mentioning also their warm sentiments toward the people of Hanoi, Comrade Le Minh Chau expressed the hope that the Hanoi city party organizations and people would achieve more results in implementing the renovation undertaking.

Fiji

FPP Fails To Win Majority, Coalition Forced

BK3105005692 Hong Kong AFP in English 2326 GMT 30 May 92

[Text] Suva, May 31 (AFP)—Fiji's dominant political party failed early Sunday to secure an outright majority in the first post-coup parliament, forcing it into coalition in order to form a government.

The Fijian political party [FPP], Soqosoqo ni Vakavulewa ni Taukei (SVT), won 30 of the 37 seats allocated to indiginous Fijians in the racially divided 70-seat parliament.

SVT president and 1987 coup leader Sitivieni Rabuka promised a parliamentary review of the Constitution promulgated in 1990.

Fiji's president Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau must name his choice of prime minister by Wednesday and ask him to form a government.

Ethnic Indians, effectively forced into permanent political opposition by the 1987 military coup, split their vote with the National Federation Party (NFP) winning 14 of the 27 seats available and the Fiji Labour Party (FLP) taking 13 seats.

The result, declared at 10:30 a.m. (2230 GMT Saturday), came after 16-1/2 hours counting of votes from Fiji's 125 inhabited islands at the end of eight days of election polling. Rabuka said the SVT would attempt to initiate talks between the five-seat General Voters Party (GVP) and the three-seat Fijian National United Front (FNUF) with a view to having them join a three-party coaliation.

But the GVP, representing Europeans and other races, has clearly stated it was unable to work with the extremist FNUF—an advocate, in the recent past, of the repatriation of all Indians from Fiji.

"The nationalists have not expressed any grievance against working with the GVP, but the GVP on the other hand has expressed very strong views against working with the nationalists," Rabuka said.

He added he would attempt to reconcile the two parties towards "a more centrist view."

The new parliament also contains four Fijian independents sympathetic to the SVT but whose leadership loyalties are uncertain.

The Constitution requires the president to invite to become prime minister the indiginous Fijian he believes can command the majority support of the parliament and ask him to form a government, unlike other democratic systems where the leader of the majority party becomes leader of the government.

The main contenders were Rabuka, along with former interim adminstration finance minister Josevata Kamikamica and a traditional chief Ratu Sir William Tonganivalu—all three won their seats.

Kamikamica won his by a sizeable majority and commands considerable respect in the SVT.

On the question of who from the SVT could become prime minister, Rabuka said: "We are going to call a party meeting later on in the day and we will put that question to members who have been elected so we can go up as a united party to his excellency the president with our nominee for prime minister and then he can use our support for the person in his deliberations."

Rabuka Endorsed for Prime Minister

BK0106082892 Hong Kong AFP in English 0804 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Suva, June 1 (AFP)—The leader of the 1987 military coups, Sitiveni Rabuka, said here Monday he had secured the endorsement of the dominant party in Fiji's new parliament for the post of prime minister in a coalition government.

Rabuka said after a two-and-a-half-hour meeting of the Fijian Political Party (FPP) caucus that 26 of its 30 MPs elected at the weekend had endorsed his nomination as prime minister.

The other four, including his two rivals for the prime ministership, were absent from the meeting.

Rabuka told reporters he was on his way to Government House to deliver the endorsement letter to President Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau.

Under the Constitution, the president is required to appoint as prime minister the indigenous Fijian he believes can command majority support in the 70-seat House of Representatives.

Rabuka's two rivals within the FPP are former finance minister Josevata Kamikamica and veteran politician Ratu Sir William Tonganivalu.

Earlier, the General Voters Party which won five seats issued a statement saying it had agreed to enter a coalition with the FPP.

Rabuka said he had also secured oral agreement from two independents to take part in the new government; their support would give a FPP-led coalition 37 seats in parliament.

Ganilau is expected to choose the prime minister on Tuesday.

In May 1987 Rabuka, then a lieutenant-colonel in the Fiji military forces, led his soldiers against the ethnic Indian-dominated government of Timoci Bavadra. The following September he launched a second coup, abrogated the constitution and declared Fiji a republic.

Fiji was governed by a civilian interim administration from December 1987 until last week's elections held under a new racially-based constitution that guarantees ethnic Fijian dominance.

Rabuka said it was the president's prerogative to decide who would be Fiji's prime minister.

He said the caucus meeting had formalised agreements it had made in a session late Sunday after the results of the eight-day election which ended Saturday were known.

The letter of endorsement had been (word indistinct) by all 26 members of the caucus present, he said, describing it as "our nomination for consideration for the prime ministership."

Rabuka said the absence of Kamikamica and Tonganivalu from the caucus meeting did "not necessarily mean they were not behind his nomination."

He said he was on his way to Government House to see Ganilau.

"I'll see that if he is in a position to receive the letter now I'll give it to him, otherwise tomorrow morning."

On the coalition issue, he said the caucus had decided the Fijian Nationalist United Front would not be part of the government.

Rabuka To Meet President To Announce Nomination

BK3105141792 Hong Kong AFP in English 1348 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Suva, June 1 (AFP)—Fiji coup leader Sitiveni Rabuka will meet the republic's president early Monday to announce his party's unanimous nomination for prime minister following weekend election results.

Rabuka, president of the dominant Fijian Political Party (FPP), said after a special meeting of the elected members of the party that he had been asked to see Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau at 9:00 a.m. (2100 GMT Sunday).

Questioned as to whether the president had asked him to form the next government, he said only "yes" and refused to comment further.

Under the Constitution, the president must decide which indigenous Fijian can command the majority of support in the parliament.

The main contenders were Rabuka, former interim administration finance minister Josevata Kamikamica and Ratu Sir William Tonganivalu.

Kamikamica, who emerged from the party meeting about 10 minutes before Rabuka, said he could not comment on whether the party had made a decision on who should be prime minister.

FPP failed to secure an absolute majority in the first general election here since the 1987 coup when final results were posted early Sunday, winning 30 of the 37 seats available to indigenous Fijians, making a coalition with minor parties necessary to obtain a working majority in the racially divided 70 seat house.

FPP general secretary Filimoni Wainiqolo, who emerged from the two hour meeting a few minutes earlier, declined to comment on whether the 26 members present at the meeting had voted on the party's choice of prime minister.

But he did say, "it was not a lengthy discussion.

"We were unanimous in deciding what to do," he said.

The general secretary said the coalition would be announced on Wednesday and indicated that the FPP had secured the five seats of the General Voters Party and the one seat for the semi-autonomous island of Rotuma.

Ethnic Indians—effectively forced into permanent political opposition after the Army toppled the coalition headed by the late premier Timoci Bavadra—will have virtually no say on the sort of government Fiji will have for the next five years.

The National Federation Party (NFP), led by Jai Ram Reddy, won 14 of the 27 seats available to Indian voters, while [number indistinct] seats went to former trade union boss Mahendra Chaudhry's Fiji Labour Party.

Papua New Guinea

Indonesian Troops Cross Border To Attack Rebels

BK0106082592 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Indonesian troops have crossed in Papua New Guinea [PNG] to destroy a camp used by rebels from the West Papuan Freedom Movement or OPM. Radio Australia's Brian Abbott reports from Port Moresby that the raid into PNG territory follows an offensive by Indonesia to prevent the OPM disrupting voting in this month's Indonesian elections.

[Begin Abbott recording] A PNG Defense Force officer confirmed the raid saying Indonesian soldiers got 5 kms into PNG territory to destroy a suspected OPM camp at (Wookam). The officer said the Indonesians burned huts to the ground during the raids and several OPM suspects are being treated for injuries in (Bannama) hospital. Last week the OPM accused Indonesian forces of burning houses and destroying several villages in Irian Jaya as part of the free election offensive.

An Indonesian-PNG agreement allows Indonesian forces to cross the border in pursuit of OPM rebels. [end recording]

Government To Protest Raid

BK0106092092 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 1 Jun 92

[Text] Indonesian troops have crossed in Papua New Guinea [PNG] and killed one Irian Jayan rebel and seriously wounded two before burning down a village. Indonesian troops attacked and burned the camp of the OPM or Free Papua Movement, 5 km inside PNG territory early yesterday morning. Our correspondent reports that PNG is expected to protest to Jakarta over the raid which is part of an Indonesian drive to ensure next week's election is not disrupted by the OPM.